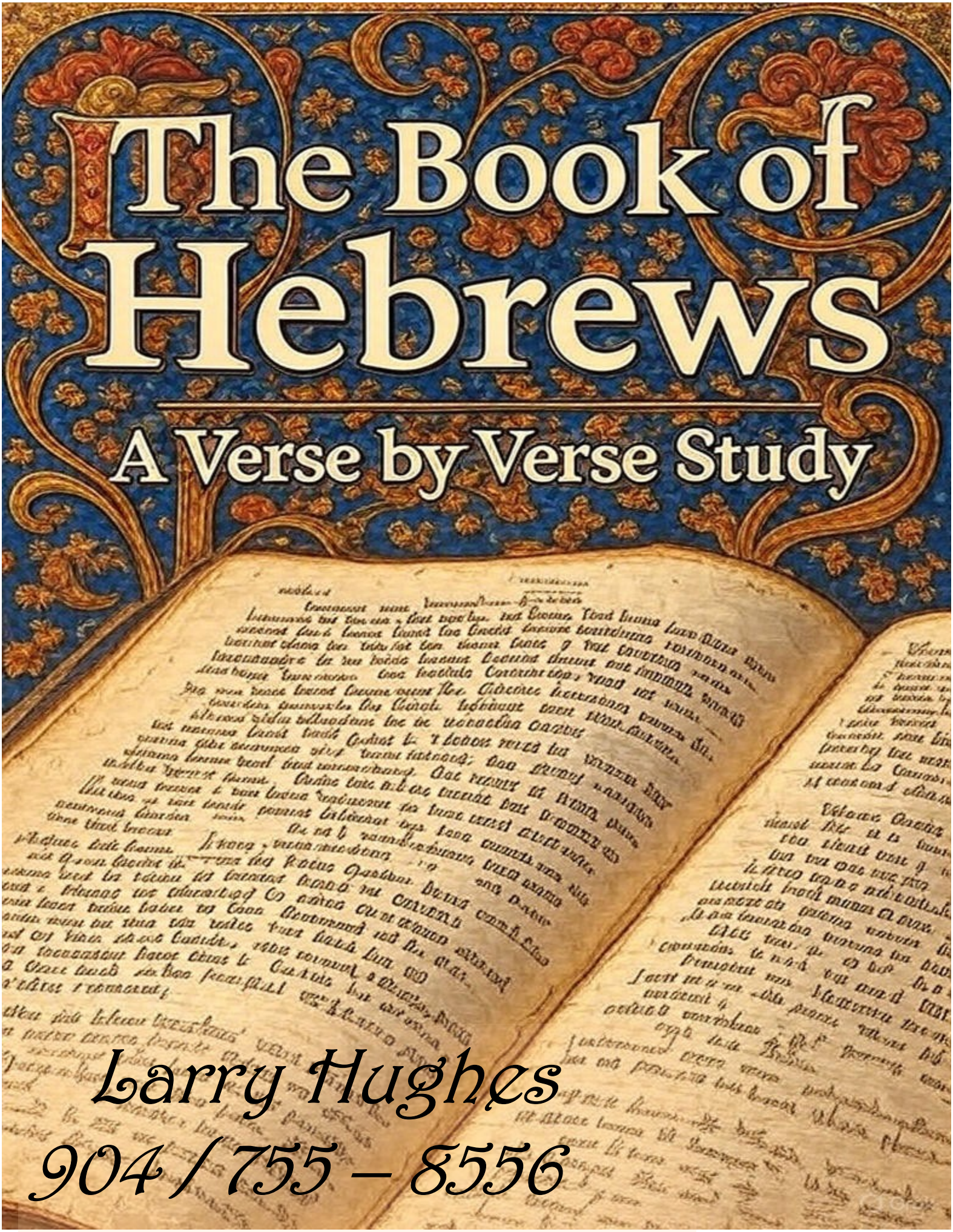
The Book of Hebrews
A Verse by Verse Study
Larry Hughes
904 / 755 – 8556

Introduction

I took journalism class when I was in high school and the only thing I remember about it was the five things that must be considered in any story or event. These five things are; the **who**, the **what**, the **when**, the **where**, and the **why**.

Who … A long discussion we will cover last.

What … Hebrews is generally called an epistle, meaning a letter. But unlike all of the other letters either from Paul or Peter or John, the book of Hebrews contains no greeting or salutation. This leads some to speculate that it is more of a sermon or exhortation than a letter. Confirmed by Heb. 13:*22 I urge you, dear brothers and sisters, to pay attention to what I have written in this brief exhortation*.

When … Most scholars agree somewhere between 60 and 64AD. There is no mention of the martyrdom of the saints that took place at the reign of Nero and it appears that Temple sacrifices were still taking place.

Where … Probably written in Italy and sent to Judea.

Why … It was written to share that Jesus is better than any other man, better than any angel, better than any priest,. Some scholars have called it the Rosetta Stone of Scripture in as much as it unlocks the meaning of the Old Testament.

Now to the Who …

Why is the who important? One of the key elements in every New Testament book was a claim to apostolic authority. If we don't know who wrote the book; how can we know if it has apostolic authority? This leaves some people, like Martin Luther, to believe that the book of Hebrews should not be in the New Testament canon. Also, if we know who the author and find a difficult passage, we can gain clarity by comparing his other writings.

Interestingly, many books in the Bible include at least the who or the why. For example; look in the book of 1st John, it says *My dear children, I am writing this to you so that you will not sin.* (2:1); *or I have written this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know you have eternal life.* (5:13). Luke clearly states who he is and what procedures he used to write his gospel. In all of Paul's letters he identifies himself and clearly explains why he wrote the letter and to whom.

Internal vs. external evidence

Internal evidence is derived by comparing scripture to scripture. In other words, taking what the Bible says and comparing to other verses. External evidence will use extra-Biblical sources to supplement the Biblical evidence. Many times the internal evidence might be able to be taken one way or another and the external evidence can be the tie breaker. External evidence is important but can never contradict what the Bible clearly states. External evidence can include archeology, secular historians, and church fathers.

Internal evidence

Likely Candidates

Apollos: born in a Greek city. Many scholars put Apollos at the top of their list. Acts 18:24 *Now a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man and mighty in the Scriptures, came to Ephesus. 25 This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things of the Lord …*

1st Cor. 4:*1 So look at Apollos and me as mere servants of Christ who have been put in charge of explaining God's mysteries.*

Cleopas: The road to Emmaus. Luke 24:18 Then one of them, Cleopas, replied to Jesus, "You must be the only person in Jerusalem who hasn't heard about all the things that have happened there the last few days." Jesus then when on to teach Cleopas how the Messiah is told about in the O.T. "*starting with Moses and including all of the prophets"*.

John 19:25 *Standing near the cross were Jesus' mother, and his mother's sister, Mary (the wife of Clopas), and Mary Magdalene.*

Luke: He wrote a good portion of the N.T. and was a native Greek speaking gentile. And Luke traveled extensively with Paul. Col 4:10 *Aristarchus, who is in prison with me, sends you his greetings, and so does Mark, Barnabas's cousin. ... These are the* ***only Jewish believers*** *among my co-workers. 14* ***Luke, the beloved doctor,*** *sends his greetings …*

Several Greek words used in the Gospel of Luke are used only in the Book of Hebrews and nowhere else.

Paul: Before we look into if Paul could have written Hebrews, let first look at 5 **objections to Paul's authorship**.

1. He did not include his normal greeting as he did in every one of his letters. Romans 1:1 *This letter is from* ***Paul****, a slave of Christ Jesus, chosen by God to be an apostle and sent out to preach his Good News.* 2nd Thes. 1:1 *This letter is from Paul, Silas, and Timothy. We are writing to the church in Thessalonica, to you who belong to God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

2. He called himself the apostle to the **gentiles** … NOT the Hebrews. So Paul would be stepping out of his ministry. Ministry to the Jews was Peters ministry. Romans 11:13 *God has appointed me as the apostle to the Gentiles.*

3. The Greek is more sophisticated than what we are used to with Paul. For example one of his early books 2nd Thessalonians uses only 17 unique Greek words; whereas Hebrews uses 335 unique (not used in any other of his letters) words. Greek was Paul's second language, his first being Hebrew. And most speakers of a second language only use 10% of the words that a natural born speaker uses in their vocabulary. Think about the word “up”. Seems pretty straightforward at first glance, but there are a hundred or more different meanings you can get depending on the sentence—get up, let up, hold up, hurry up, stay up, eat up, stock up, etc. etc. In none of these phrasal verbs does “up” have anything to do with its literal meaning, “above”, and in each one the verb changes into something else if you remove “up”. Small variety of vocabulary, but a huge number of different meanings you can infer.

4. Hebrews may not have been written by any apostle, but by someone who only heard the apostles speak but not Jesus. Hebrews 2:3 *delivered to us by those who heard him speak.* Paul was an apostle … meaning he saw and heard Jesus personally and was “sent” by Jesus.

5. Paul does not identify himself like he does in all the rest of his letters nor does he mention any of his associates and send greetings. 2nd Thes 3:17 *Here is my greeting in my own handwriting—Paul. I do this in all my letters to prove they are from me.*

Refuting the Objections of Paul's authorships

1. Why doesn't Paul identify himself? He may have thought that Hebrews in Jerusalem were skeptical of him because of his past persecution and maybe thought it was better to remain anonymous. Acts 8:3 *But Saul was going everywhere to destroy the church. He went from house to house, dragging out both men and women to throw them into prison. Acts 9:11 The Lord said, "Go over to Straight Street, to the house of Judas. When you get there, ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul. He is praying to me right now. 13"**But Lord**," exclaimed Ananias, "I've heard many people talk about the terrible things this man has done to the believers in Jerusalem! 14 And he is authorized by the leading priests to arrest everyone who calls upon your name." 15 But the Lord said, "Go, for Saul is my chosen instrument to take my message to the Gentiles and to kings, **as well as to the people of Israel***

Acts 19:26 When Saul arrived in Jerusalem, he tried to meet with the believers, but they were all afraid of him. They did not believe he had truly become a believer.

2. Paul always went to the synagogue first to preach Jesus before preaching to the gentiles. Acts 17:2 *As was Paul's custom, he went to the synagogue service, and for three Sabbaths in a row he used the Scriptures to reason with the people. 3 He explained the prophecies and proved that the Messiah must suffer and rise from the dead. He said, "This Jesus I'm telling you about is the Messiah*"

3. Trick question. Who wrote the book of Romans? Romans 16:*22 I terchuis, who **wrote** this epistle send you my greetings*

Who authored The Book of Romans? … Paul. So there are two issues at stake. There is "the who" authored a manuscript and who actually put pen to paper or wrote it. And then just like the book of Romans; It is possible that the author and the writer of Hebrews may be two different people. **4**. Paul even though an apostle said he did pass on information he received from others that heard Jesus. 1st Cor. 15:3 *I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said.*

4. Paul even though an apostle said he did pass on information he received from others that heard Jesus. 1st Cor. 15:3 *I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said.*

5. While Paul does not begin with a greeting. Hhe does however close out the book with "*Grace and peace be with you, Amen"* as he does with all of his letters. Roman 16:20 *May the grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.* Phi. 4:23 *May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.*1st Thes. 5:28 *May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.* No other author has this salutation.

6. We have determined that Hebrews is not a letter, but rather a sermon (exhortation). So we may limit out candidates to those who we know have preached sermons in the New Testament. First, is Peter on the Day of Pentecost. Stephen preached as he as being stoned. And of course Paul preached. Sometimes he would preach until parishioners fell from a window. The list of people that are not recorded as preaching are Mathew, Mark, Luke, and John.

External Evidence

1. Most of the early church fathers all believed it was Paul. It wasn't until the 4th century when Catholicism took hold of the church that the authorship was in question. So what did the Catholic Church have against the book of Hebrews? Hebrews 4:*16 Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace.* The Catholics wanted us to come boldly before the priests who wanted to be our mediator between them and God. Hebrews 10:12 *after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God*…This verse contradicts the Catholic doctrine of transubstantiation. This doctrine is that Jesus body is broken each time you take communion.

2. Clement of Alexandria, around the beginning of the 3rd century, suggested that Paul had written Hebrews originally in the Hebrew language and that Luke had translated it into Greek. 1st Clement 36:1-5; (96 AD) makes reference to the book of Hebrews and to the "other" writing of Paul. Clement says that Paul wrote the book of Hebrew, but didn't sign his name because of the suspicions of the Jerusalem Church and it was originally written in Hebrew.

3. Origen suggested that Paul probably was the author … He concluded that "only God knew who the author was". But in his writings, he would quote a passage from Hebrews and attributed it to the apostle Paul. It is likely that it was originally spoken or authored in Hebrew since the letter was to the Hebrews and later translated into Greek.

4. Jerome 400ad … "*to the Eastern Church we must say that this epistle which is inscribed to the Hebrews is received as being written by the apostle Paul … by all ecclesiastical writers of former times. But the Latins do not receive it as canonical scriptures*."

5. Eusibus in a writing called "Church History" states in writing to the Hebrews who were prejudice and suspicious of Paul he wisely did not wish to repel them by beginning with his name.

6. In the Pauline Epistles, the book of Hebrews immediately follows Thessalonians in all of the great manuscripts; including the Codex Alexandrinus (450), the Codex Sinaiticus (325).

7. Hebrews may be anonymous to us, but it was not to Paul's original audience. The audience knew who the author was. He requests them to "*pray for us*" so that he may be restored to them sooner (Heb 13:18–19)

Conclusion:

In weighing all the internal and external evidence is "beyond a reasonable doubt" to me that Paul is the author of Hebrews and most probably Luke translated it to Greek for wider distribution to the churches outside of Jerusalem.

2nd Timothy 4:11-13 *Only **Luke is with me**. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for ministry. 12 And Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus. 13 **Bring the** cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas when you come—and the books, especially the **parchments.***

Introduction: Who, What, Where, When, Why

What … Hebrews is not a letter. Heb. 13:*22*

When … Most scholars agree somewhere between 60 and 64AD

Where … Probably written in Italy and sent to Judea.

Why … It was written to share that Jesus is better than any other man, better than any angel, better than any priest.

Who … Why is "the who" important? One of the key elements in every New Testament book was a claim to apostolic authority.

Internal evidence Likely Candidates

Apollos: born in a Greek city. Many scholars put Apollos at the top of their list. Acts 18:24 / 1st Cor. 4:1

Cleopas: The road to Emmaus. Luke 24:18 / John 19:25

Luke: He wrote a good portion of the N.T. and was a Greek Gentile Col 4:10

Paul: **5 objections to Paul's authorship.**

1. He did not include his normal greeting Rom. 1:1 / 2nd Thes. 1:1

2. He called himself the apostle to the **gentiles,** not Hebrews. Rom. 11:13

3. The Greek is more sophisticated than what we are used to with Paul.

4. Hebrews may not have been written by any apostle. Hebrews 2:3

5. Paul does not identify himself. 2nd Thes 3:17

Refuting the 5 Objections to Paul's authorships

1. He may have thought that Jews in Jerusalem were skeptical of him Acts 8:3 / Acts 9:11 / Acts 19:

2. Paul always went to the synagogue first to preach Jesus Acts 17:2

3. Trick question. Who wrote the book of Romans? Romans 16:*22*

4. Paul did pass on information he received from others that heard Jesus. 1st Cor. 15:3

5. Paul does close out the book with "*Grace"* Rom. 16:20 / Phi. 4:23 / 1st Thes. 5:28

External Evidence

1. Most of the early church fathers all believed it was Paul. Hebrews 4:*16* Hebrews 10:12

2. Clement of Alexandria, around the beginning of the 3rd century, suggested that Paul had written Hebrews originally in the Hebrew language and that Luke had translated it into Greek. 1st Clement 36:1-5; (96 AD)

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2nd Timothy 4:11-13

Hebrews Chapter 1: (NLT)

As we read through Hebrews we won't stay strictly in this book. It will lead us into various other writings in the New Testament and the Old. And we may take more than a few theological detours when the occasion arises.

I gave some thought as to which translation of the Bible to use. I have been using the NLT mostly for my reading. But in a word study I am thinking the good ole KJV. It just has such a regal flair and is more word for word instead of a thought for thought. To get a feel for the differences, let's take a brief look at verse 1 in the NLT, the KJV, and the Greek.

NLT 1 *Long ago God spoke many times and in many ways to our ancestors through the prophets. 2 And now in these final days, he has spoken to us through his Son,*

KJV *1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son*, …

GK ***Poly****-meros kai* ***poly****-tropos ho Theos pa-lai la-le-sas* ***trois*** *pat-ras-in en* ***trois*** *pro-phe-tais ep' es-cha-tou* ***ton*** *hemeron tou****ton*** *e-lel-a-son heminen huio*

sundry times*:* Many parts; or step-by-step; or degrees. God progressively revealed His plan of salvation through Jesus little by little. All that Eve was told is that her seed would crush the head of the serpent. From this we know either a man or woman would be the savior. Abraham was told that it would be through his lineage and a son. Moses was told that Messiah would be a prophet. Micah was told the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem and Daniel knew Messiah would arrive while the temple was standing.

divers manners - Troposphere – the part of the atmosphere most subject to change. Direct appearance, Visions, Dreams, Inspiration of Holy Spirit

in these last days - Dispensationalism vs. Replacement Theology

Innocence- creation to the fall

Conscience - fall to flood

Human Govt. - flood to Abraham

Covenant - Abraham to Moses

Law - Moses to Pentecost – God's focus was on the Jews

Grace (church) - Pentecost to rapture – God's focus is on the gentiles

Millennium - rapture to eternity – God's focus is to all mankind.

2 *And now in these final days, he has spoken to us through his Son. God promised everything to the Son as an inheritance, and through the Son he created the universe.*

Luke 21:24 *And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the* ***times of the Gentiles*** *be fulfilled.* 2nd Thes. 2:7 *For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.* Holy Spirit (in Christians) is a restraining force against this evil one.

Ages in the Bible … 1. Age of Innocence. 2. Age of Conscience. 3. Age of Human Government. 4. Age of Promise. 5. Age of Law. 6. Age of Grace 7. New Heaven and New Earth

Ps 102: Why would Paul quote this particular psalm and relate it to Jesus?

LORD is used 9 times in this passage. On first read, you might assume LORD refers to God the Father. But Paul clearly relates this holy name to Jesus. We have learned in the past that LORD can refer to God the father, God the son, and God the Holy Spirit.

Mat 28:19 *go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the* ***name*** *of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.*

Ps. 110: Have you ever thought it would be kind of neat to be like the proverbial fly on the wall and get to listen in on a private conversation between two people? What about the conversation between God the father and God the son right after Jesus' resurrection? What do you think the Father would have said to the son?

Ps. 110 … the most quoted o.t. passage. *The LORD (YHWH) said to my Lord (adonei) sit at my right hand …*

YAHWEH is the name of God the father, God the son, and God the Holy Spirit. The name can indicate any one of the Trinity or all of them at once. The context is the key to understanding. In Ps. 110 YAHWEH is God the father and my Lord (David's Lord) is God the son.

The Pharisee's try to trap Jesus into denying God or Caesar.

Mat 22:17 *Now tell us what you think about this: Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?"* Mat 22:28 *So tell us, whose wife will she be in the resurrection? For all seven were married to her."* Mat 22:36 *"Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the Law of Moses?"* Mat 22:41-46 *Then, surrounded by the Pharisees, Jesus asked them a question: "What do you think about the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They replied, "He is the son of David."*

Jesus responded, "Then why does David, speaking under the inspiration of the Spirit, call the Messiah 'my Lord'? For David said, 'The Lord said to my Lord, Sit in the place of honor at my right hand until I humble your enemies beneath your feet.' Since David called the Messiah 'my Lord,' how can the Messiah be his son?" No one could answer him. And after that, no one dared to ask him any more questions.

We have been talking about how Hebrews points out that Jesus is better, superior, more than the prophets, the angels, the sacrifices, and the temple. That does NOT mean we discard the O.T. Jesus said he did not come to *destroy the law and the prophets, but to fulfill it.*

This week I heard a significant pastor say it was time to unhitch the O.T. from the New. Andy Stanley, son of the respected Charles Stanley, pastor of First Baptist Church, Atlanta who past away last year

What is the foundation for your faith in God?

Your feelings

CE others

The Bible

The resurrection

Other or all of the above

Picture a horse hitched to a wagon loaded with baggage. He teaches that our churches should unhitch the N.T. horse and leave the O.T. baggage behind if we wish to reach the world.

He says that “Many have lost faith because of something in the Bible esp. The O.T.” and while it may be true that some have a hard time believing in a literal Adam and Eve, or that a flood covered the whole earth, or that a trumpet blast made the walls of Jericho fall, or that a kind and loving god would call for the genocide of a nation; the question is do you believe it is OK to tell people to ignore the O.T.?’

So you're witnessing and you don't bring up the Old Testament; you try to lead people to salvation basically by Romans road. But, they bring up the Old Testament what's your response? Do you tell them to just ignore the Old Testament or do you try to defend it?

Acts 15 the Jerusalem council. Define believers' relationship to the o.t. Acts 15:19. Question: Did the council define whether we must obey all the Jewish laws or define whether we should believe the O.T. is the word of God?

Acts 15:19 *And so my judgment is that we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God.* 20 *Instead, we should write and tell them to abstain from eating food offered to idols, from sexual immorality, from eating the meat of strangled animals, and from consuming blood.*

Jesus is the continuation of the revelation of God, not a new one.

Acts 24:14 *But I admit that I follow the Way, which they call a cult. I worship the God of our ancestors, and I firmly believe the Jewish law and everything written in the prophets*

All scriptures given by inspiration of God. Scripture always refers to the Old Testament.

Why does Paul spend so much time talking about angels????

History lesson

Socrates 400bc Taught Plato

Plato 350bc Taught Aristotle

Aristotle 325bc taught Alexander

Alexander the Great 325

Alexandria Egypt 332

Roman Rule 30 bc

Philo 25bc

Jesus 3ad fled to Egypt for several years and contemporary of Philo.

Plato taught that a perfect invisible God created and permeated all of creation, but did not get involved in the day to day affairs of mankind. God was unreachable.

Alexandria in Philo's time: A very rich, port city – 600,000 population – Greeks, Egyptians, Jews. Largest Jewish population outside of Israel. Cosmopolitan – think of New York today.

Largest library in the ancient world - 1m volumes. Books confiscated from ships and copied.

Library complex also housed temples and places to contemplate the arts from the 7 Greek muses. It was these muses that that inspired works of art. Today we visit Muse-eums to see inspired work of art. Septuagint. 70 Jewish scholars. 6 from each of the 12 tribes. translated the O.T. into Greek. The book of Hebrews quotes from the Greek not the Hebrew Scriptures.

Philo:

Very educated in Greek philosophy and the Scriptures. Very Rich family.

We have more than 50 of Philo's writings

He taught that the perfect God was like the Sun. Pure, perfect light, and unreachable and, like light, it fills all of creation. Picture circles within a circle, the sun in the middle and each outer circle is just a bit farther from god. The circle nearest god he called the LOGOS. Then the archangels, then your run of the mill angels, then holy people, then us, the unrepentant sinners, animals, and plants.

How could a mere man reach such an unreachable God? We would need a mediator. Thus, the need for angels. We can pray to them, worship them. Men are just a bit lower than the angels. Psalms 8:3-5 *When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers,*
The moon and the stars, which You have ordained,
What is man that You are mindful of him,
And the son of man that You visit him? <u>You have made him a little lower than the angels,</u>
And You have crowned him with glory and honor.

His writings were quite influential in Judaism of his day and so some branches of Judaism held to the worship of angels. The angels could not only bring us a step closer to God, but also give us "secret" messages from God. This led to what is called Gnosticism. (gr for knowledge).

This philosophy can still be seen to this day.

Catholics still revere angels and have a feast day. They will pray to angels, Mary, the saints in effort to have a mediator.

JW worships angels, including the angel Jesus.

J. Smith said he received his secret knowledge in the book of Mormon from the Angel Moroni.

New age occultists invoke the power of Michael and Gabriel to protect them as they recite their magical spells.

In Paul's day young Christianity was split into several factions. The Judaizers, addressed at the council of Jerusalem in Acts 15. And then the Gnostics, influenced by Philo. Paul fought against both of these ideas. Col. 2:*18 let no one who delights in humility and the worship of angels pass judgment on you. That person goes on at great lengths about what he has supposedly seen, but he is puffed up with empty notions by his fleshly mind.*

Now picture this. If Judaizers had won we may not have any of Paul's writings. If the Gnostic sects would have won we would have different Gospels, such as the Gospel of Thomas or the Gospel of Judas.

And while most of us are aware of Christianity breaking free from Judaism, we are less aware these Gnostics. History was generally unaware of Gnostic beliefs until about 100 years ago when troves of Gnostic writings were uncovered. It was like finding a missing piece to this puzzle. And this explains why Paul spent so much time telling us about Jesus is better than the angels.

Hebrews Chapter 2 key word … RELATIONSHIP

Therefore… links chapter one to two.

drift away .. 1st of 7 warnings and the mildest. Riptide slowly carries far away from where you belong.

Why do we drift????

Relationship of Jesus to the father

Our relationship to Jesus ... brother

Chapter 2: RELATIONSHIPS

Hezbollah and Turkey

*1 So we must **listen** very carefully to the truth we have heard, or we may drift away from it.* Shema – listen and obey

Drift - 1st of 7 warnings and the mildest. Riptide slowly carries far away from where you belong. Not about rejecting your faith but neglecting it.

Why do we drift????

1. Neglect our reading of His word
2. Neglect our praise and prayer time
3. Neglect witnessing
4. Neglect Church attendance
5. Neglect … fill in the blank

Q. What is required for you to drift away A. nothing

Chapter 2: RELATIONSHIPS

2*For the message God delivered through angels has always stood firm*, … Delivered by angels Acts 7:53 gal 3:19 God wrote 10 Commandments with His finger and may have given to an angel to give to Moses. ?

… *and every violation of the law and every act of disobedience was* ***punished***. (GK. mis-thap-o-dosian, only used 3 times, all in Hebrews)

Heb 10:35 *So do not throw away this confident trust in the Lord. Remember the great* ***reward*** *it brings you.*

Heb 11:26 *for he* (Moses) *was looking ahead to his great* ***reward***.

a just ***recompence*** *of reward;* (KJV) Compensation. When you work – you are compensated for the work you have done. If you break a neighbor's window, then you pay compensation to him. So, in the first case you are receiving (Rewarded) and the later you are paying (penalty/punished)

Romans 4:4 *When people work, their wages are not a gift, but something they have earned. 5 But people are counted as righteous, not because of their work, but because of their faith in God who forgives sinners*. 15 *For the law always brings punishment on those who try to obey it. (The only way to avoid breaking the law is to have no law to break!)*

KJV translates this word as ***Recompense*** from Latin "*weigh together to make equal"* Think of the scales on lady justice. Everything must be made equal or just.

Chapter 2: RELATIONSHIPS

If you break speeding laws you must pay a penalty or compensation, this balances out justice. If someone breaks your window, they must compensate you for the cost to repair it

If autobahn you cannot break speeding law

3So what makes us think we can escape if we ***ignore*** *this great salvation that was first announced by the Lord Jesus himself and then delivered to us by those who heard him speak?*

If we neglect our yard, if we don't water it, if we don't put weed and feed on it, if we don't cut it; over time it reverts back to its natural state. So will we.

4And God confirmed the message by giving signs and wonders and various miracles and gifts of the Holy Spirit whenever he chose. Spoken by Jesus and confirmed by 3 witnesses.

1. By those that heard him
2. Sign and wonders
3. Gifts of holy Spirit

John 5:31 - 3 witnesses under Jewish law Deut. 19:1

1. John the Baptist
2. Teaching and works
3. Moses and the scriptures

5 *And furthermore, it is not angels who will control the future world we are talking about.* 6 *For in one place the Scriptures say,* (Psalms 8)

"What are mere mortals that you should think about them,

or a son of man that you should care for him?

7 *Yet for a little while you made them* (or Him) *a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor.*

8 *You gave them authority over all things." Now when it says "all things," it means nothing is left out. But we have not yet seen all things put under their authority.*

Man was initially given authority or dominion over everything on earth, but this was taken away because of sin. In the millennium, born again believers will regain authority over all things. Think of this … after the Battle of Armageddon, we will live together with surviving unbelievers. Most of mankind will have been recaptured or killed, but a few billion will remain. Jesus will have total authority and we will have authority under him. We may be in charge of a country, a county, a city, or a neighborhood. Ha, we may be in charge of the neighborhood association… time to get revenge. See Rev 20:6 *Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection. For them the second death holds no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and* ***will reign with him a thousand years.***

Chapter 2: RELATIONSHIPS

9What we do see is Jesus, who for a little while was given a position "a little lower than the angels"; and because he suffered death for us, he is now "crowned with glory and honor." Yes, by God's grace, Jesus tasted death for everyone. 10God, for whom and through whom everything was made, chose to bring many children into glory. And it was only right that he should make Jesus, through his suffering, a perfect leader, fit to bring them into their salvation.

11So now Jesus and the ones he makes holy have the same Father. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them his brothers and sisters.

12For he said to God, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters. I will praise you among your assembled people."

13He also said, "I will put my trust in him," that is, "I and the children God has given me."

14Because God's children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and ***only by dying could he break the power of the devil,*** *who* ***had*** *the power of death. 15Only in this way could he set free all who have lived their lives as slaves to the fear of dying.*

16We also know that the Son did not come to help angels; he came to help the descendants of Abraham. 17Therefore, it was necessary for him to be made in every respect like us, his ***brothers and sisters****, so that he could be our merciful and faithful High Priest before God. Then he could offer a sacrifice that would take away the sins of the people. 18Since he himself has gone through suffering and testing, he is able to help us when we are being tested.*

One day I got a speeding ticket not noticing the school zone. The 120 fine was doubled … ouch. Less than 1 hours later. I did that rolling stop at a sign. Yes another ticket, another penalty. By the end of the day I had 3 tickets against me and no money to pay them. So I choose to go to court and plead for mercy. On the day I faced the judge hoping for the best. The first charge was read and the fine was explained .. the the judge turn a page "wait, I see your brother has already "paid in full" this fine and. All the others. Someone certainly had mercy on you. He paid a debt I could not pay … was paid in full. But the judge said … this is just not right, I am going to impose life in prison on you. What do you think of this judge?

Romans 14:12 *Yes, each of us will give a personal account to God. 13 So let's stop condemning each other. Decide instead to live in such a way that you will not cause another believer to stumble and fall.*

If it happens that my sin is brought up by God and I am ask how I plead, my answer will be "my brother Jesus paid for that sin by his death in the cross, so I plead the blood of Jesus over that sin".

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14 I know and am convinced

2nd cor 5:10 judgement seat

Col 2:13-14 nailed to the cross. It is finished … paid in full

Elvina Hall, 1865 having suffered loss of loved one in Civil War. , wrote

I hear the Savior say, “Thy strength indeed is small;

Child of weakness, watch and pray, Find in Me thine all in all.”

Refrain:

Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe;

Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.

Lord, now indeed I find Thy pow’r, and Thine alone,

Can change the *leopard’s spots [*leper’s] And melt the heart of stone

And when before the throne, I stand in him complete

Jesus died my soul to save. My lips shall still repeat ….

Hebrews chapter 3:

Last week I told you the story about how my brother paid my fines in full. There is more truth to that then you might first think when you consider Heb. 2:11 *Jesus is not ashamed to call us his brothers.*

1 And so, dear brothers and sisters who belong to God and are partners with those called to heaven, think carefully about this Jesus whom we declare to be God's messenger and High Priest.

think carefully; consider (NKJ**)**; katanoēsate (GK)

used in the New Testament to denote a deep, attentive observation or consideration. It implies more than a casual glance, suggesting a thorough and careful examination or contemplation.

Category Catalog

Katalambano a cousin word

Romans 9:24 *Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to* ***win*** (obtain)

John 1:5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. (Overcome)

… *God's messenger and High Priest* **Apostle** actually it's a military term where someone would be appointed by a higher authority to bring a message. So the disciples were apostles of Jesus in Jesus was an apostle of the Father. And He is also the High Priest who mediated between man and God. So Jesus is in this double role in that he brings God's word to us and then acts as a mediator to bring us to God.

We declare or *our confession* (NKJ) homologias (GK) homo - same; logias - word. Together agreeing with … Romans 10:9 *if we confess*

2 *For he was faithful to God, who appointed him, just as Moses served faithfully when he was entrusted with God's entire house.*

Ok, so we read that Jesus was faithful and just sorta gloss over it, like sure. But pause just a minute. Being faithful in everything is more than just difficult. Not one of us has been faithful in every relationship, faithful in giving, faithful in our work, faithful and truthful in every word. Yet, this is Jesus.

What is the opposite of faith?

Jesus told Thomas, *don't be faithless, but believe*. Jn20:27

If *we are unfaithful, he remain faithful*. 2tim 2:13

Paul makes it clear in a later chapter that the house Moses was entrusted with was the Tabernacle in the wilderness and how this is a picture of Jesus.

3 But Jesus deserves far more glory than Moses, just as a person who builds a house deserves more praise than the house itself.

The transfiguration. Moses was there with Jesus and God said *this is my son listen to him*.

4 For every house has a builder, but the one who built everything is God.

5 Moses was certainly faithful in God's house as a servant. His work was an ***illustration of the truths*** *God would reveal later.*

6 But Christ, as the Son, is in charge of God's entire house. And we are God's house, if we keep our courage and remain confident in our hope in Christ.

we are God's house we are the temple. God's address has changed … 1st He walked in the garden with Adam. 2nd He was that cloud of glory in the tabernacle. 3rd, he was in the holy of holies in the Temple. Finally, from the day of pentecost He has taken residence in believers.

7 That is why the Holy Spirit says, "Today when you hear his voice,

8 don't harden your hearts as Israel did when they rebelled, when they tested me in the wilderness.

9 There your ancestors tested and tried my patience,even though they saw my miracles for forty years.

10 So I was angry with them, and I said,'Their hearts always turn away from me. They refuse to do what I tell them.'

11 So in my anger I took an oath: 'They will never enter my place of rest.'"

Num. 14 The spies did not believe even though they had all seen many miracles. A 13-day journey turned into a 40-year one.

12 Be careful then, dear brothers and sisters. Make sure that your own hearts are not evil and ***unbelieving****, turning you away from the living God.*

Paul's 2nd warning. More severe than drifting away but less severe than the three other warnings to come.

I don't believe there's really an undertow, I'm going to **turn** and swim out a little bit farther. Notice that Paul's first warning not to drift away requires no action but that turning away requires you to turn and deliberately go in the opposite direction..

13 You must warn each other every day, while it is still “today,” so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God.

*14 For **if** we are faithful to the end, trusting God just as firmly as when we first believed, we will share in all that belongs to Christ.*

If ??? Can we lose our salvation? We will come back to that question after we finish the chapter.

*15 Remember what it says “Today when you hear his voice, don’t **harden** your **hearts** as Israel did when they rebelled.”*

Harden GK. Skleros

Heart kardias cardiac event

Scleroderma hardening skin

AtheroSclerosis hardening arteries

Multiple sclerosis hardening nerves

All are gradual and progressively worse.

What did Israel do to harden?

1 complained about being trap by the red sea.

2. Complained about lack of water

3. Complained about lack of food

4. Complained about lack of meat

5. Complained about each other and the law … Moses appointed 70 just to listen to all the complaints

6. Complained about the giants in the land.

ALL of their complaints were rooted in an **unbelief** that God would not do as he said.

3 questions

16 And who was it who rebelled against God, even though they heard his voice? Wasn't it the people Moses led out of Egypt?

17 And who made God angry for forty years? Wasn't it the people who sinned, whose corpses lay in the wilderness?

18 And to whom was God speaking when he took an oath that they would never enter his rest? Wasn't it the people who disobeyed him?

*19 we see that because of their **unbelief** they were not able to enter his **rest**.*

It was actually not a particular sin or action that caused them to die in the wilderness, but it was their unbelief. Unbelief is the root of their sin.

You can choose Unbelief and become a corpse in the wilderness: or Trust and rest in God's salvation.

Can we lose salvation?

Sometimes the Bible seems kind of vague on the subject**.** You find one verse that gives you eternal assurance, then find another verse that has that pesky **if** in front of it**.**

John 6:47 *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life*.

Ephesians 1:12 *That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. 13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, 14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory*

Romans 8:*38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord*

Hebrews Chapter 4

*1 God's promise of entering his **rest** still stands, so we ought to tremble with fear that some of you might fail to experience it.*

2 For this good news—that God has prepared this rest—has been announced to us just as it was to them. But it did them no good because they didn't share the faith of those who listened to God.

3 For only we who believe can enter his rest. As for the others, God said, "In my anger I took an oath: 'They will never enter my place of rest,'" even though this rest has been ready since he made the world.

4 We know it is ready because of the place in the Scriptures where it mentions the seventh day: "On the seventh day God rested from all his work."

5 But in the other passage God said, "They will never enter my place of rest."

6 So God's rest is there for people to enter, but those who first heard this good news failed to enter because they disobeyed God.

7 So God set another time for entering his rest, and that time is today. God announced this through David much later in the words already quoted:

"Today when you hear his voice,don't harden your hearts."

8 Now if Joshua had succeeded in giving them this rest, God would not have spoken about another day of rest still to come.

9 So there is a special rest still waiting for the people of God.

10 For all who have entered into God's rest have rested from their labors, just as God did after creating the world.

11 So let us do our best to enter that rest. But if we disobey God, as the people of Israel did, we will fall.

God's rest. Jesus has greater rest

The promised land was the place of God's rest and salvation. They had worked getting there, and all they had to do was believe and trust God.
3:19 *Because of their unbelief they were not able to enter his rest.*

Matthew 11:28 *Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.*

So, what is the requirement to enter this rest?

12 For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.

Two thoughts. First speaking of the Jews, they thought the enemy were giants and no doubt has deadly swords, but had they believed the word of God, they would have seen this sharp sword turned against their enemies. Secondly, unbelief can turn this sword inward, revealing our sin and our proper destruction.

13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the one to whom we are accountable

Jesus greater than high priest

14 So then, since we have a great High Priest who has entered heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to what we believe.

15 This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin.

16 So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.

This is what was preached at Eleven 22. We have access.

Hebrews Chapter 5

*1 Every **high priest** is a man chosen to represent other people in their dealings with God. He presents their gifts to God and offers **sacrifices** for their sins. 2 And he is able to deal gently with ignorant and wayward people because he himself is subject to the same weaknesses. 3 That is why he must offer sacrifices for **his own sins** as well as theirs.*

High priest had to make 2 sacrifices, first for his own sins, then for the people's sin. Jesus made one sacrifice.

4 And no one can become a high priest simply because he wants such an honor. He must be called by God for this work, just as Aaron was.

Lev 21:13 high priest must …

*5 That is why Christ did not honor himself by assuming he could become High Priest. No, he was **chosen by God**, who said to him, "You are my Son. Today I have become your Father."*

(Or begotten… monogenes mono-one, gene-same nature. Gen 22:2 Isaac *your only son.*)

Paul is telling us that Jesus is a better high priest. Wait! What? Paul knew well that under the Law, the high priest must be from the tribe of Levi and a direct descendant of Aaron. Jesus was neither. **What tribe was he descended from**? Judah. So how is Paul going to make sense of this? Brilliantly!

*6 And in another passage God said to him, "You are a priest forever in the order of **Melchizedek**."*

*7 While Jesus was here on earth, he offered prayers and pleadings, with a loud cry and tears, to the one who could rescue him from death. And God heard his prayers because of his deep reverence for God. 8 Even though Jesus was God's Son, he learned obedience from the things he suffered. 9 In this way, God qualified him as a **perfect High Priest**, and he became the source of eternal salvation for all those who obey him. 10 And God designated him to be a High Priest in the order of Melchizedek.*

Paul has laid out the argument that Jesus is greater than the Angels, Greater than Moses, Greater then the High Priest and now takes a little detour.

11 There is much more we would like to say about this, but it is difficult to explain, especially since you are spiritually dull and don't seem to listen.

12 You have been believers so long now that you ought to be teaching others. Instead, you need someone to teach you again the basic things about God's word. You are like babies who need milk and cannot eat solid food.

13 For someone who lives on milk is still an infant and doesn't know how to do what is right.

14 Solid food is for those who are mature, who through training have the skill to recognize the difference between right and wrong.

Church history is about to give us an example of how being a baby can lead to disaster.

Chapter 6

1So let us stop going over the basic teachings about Christ again and again. Let us go on instead and become mature in our understanding. Surely we don't need to start again with the fundamental importance of ***repenting*** *from evil deeds and placing our faith in God.*

How one mistranslation corrupted the Catholic Church

Repentance is the Greek metanoia (meta change, noia mind) or to change one's mind esp. about sin. Jerome (390), in his Latin Vulgate, translates this as paenitentiam "do penance" implying "make a payment". The Catholic Church instituted the sacrament of "penance" where the priest gives you works or you give alms or gifts to the church. This is one of the main issues that Martin Luther had with the church. Luther attends University at Magdeburg, Germany and learns Greek and finds metanoia meaning **Re**pentance; not paying penance or indulgences. A single mistranslation alone would not be a big deal, but it gave the already power hungry priests and a greedy church ammunition to use against believers.

Noted historian & professor, Janes has written a series of articles, "*Documents that Changed the World*" He Includes the Declaration of Independence, the Rosetta Stone, IRS form 1040, and dozens more.
About **indulgences** he writes, "… Indulgences were marketed by the Catholic Church. Purchasers were promised that, for a set amount of money, they could pre-absolve sins they were planning to commit in the coming days. And you could also purchase them for dead relatives to get them out of purgatory.
Gutenberg made money printing indulgences as a sort of side business even as he printed Bibles, …. "Indulgences had been around for centuries, an opportunity for the faithful to atone and have their sins remitted by, say, good works, fasting, going on Crusade or a pious donation," Janes wrote. The first instance of Gutenberg printing them was in 1454.
"The document itself is just a form, boilerplate as we say today. Take that to your confessor … and you've gotten yourself out of Purgatory. This was big business for everybody involved, for the printers but mainly for the church. Print runs ran into the thousands, and in one case at least 190,000 indulgences were printed."

Chapter 6

An **Indulgence** from the 1400's. The priest would simply handwrite sinner's name, his sin, the amount of penance to pay, and then sign it. This saved the priest many hours of work.

Johannes angelus Arcimboldus juris utriusq doctor prepositus de Arcissate.

Forma absolutionis plenarie premissa confessione.

Misereat tui etc. Dñs nr iesus crist⁹ p merita sue sactissime passiōis te absoluat. et ego auctoritate eiusdē et btōr Petri et pauli aplor eius ac ictissimi dñi nri pape tibi cessa et in hac pte mihi cmissa. absoluo te a censuris ecclasticis quolibet incursis etiā sedi aplice reseruatis Necnō ab oib⁹ pctis delictis et excessib⁹ hacten⁹ p te cmissis. quātūcunq enormib⁹ in quantū mihi facultas cceditur et claues scte matris ecclie se extendūt remittēdo tibi p plenariā indulgentiā oēm penā in purgatorio p premissis tibi debitā. et restituo te sanctis sacris ecclesie et vnitati fidelium ac innocentie et puritati in qua eras qn baptizatus fuisti. ita q tibi decedēti clause sint porte penarū et sint aperte ianue paradisi delitiar. quod si nō morieris salua sit ista gratia quādo als fueris in mortis articulo. In nomine patris et filij et spiritussancti. Amen.

Appendebat sigillum in rub a cera

0041884

Jo. Franc.

Hermānus pomerij.

Catholic Bible early Greek to Latin to English.
KJV NKJV five manuscripts from the 400,'s Greek to English
TLB about 5000 1st century manuscripts Greek to English

What we believe … What the apostles wrote was 100% inspired by God and infallible. But that all translations, including the KJV may have translation or copy errors but textual research has proven it to be reliable in all faith doctrines.

2You don't need further instruction about baptisms, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. 3And so, God willing, we will move forward to further understanding.

First couplet … salvation
Second … transformation
Third … death & end times

Chapter 6

3rd Warning … more severe

*4For it is **impossible** to bring back to repentance those who were once enlightened—those who have experienced the good things of heaven and shared in the Holy Spirit, 5who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the power of the age to come— 6and who then turn away from God. It is impossible to bring such people back to repentance; by rejecting the Son of God, they themselves are nailing him to the cross once again and holding him up to public shame.*

What are things that Paul also thinks are impossible?
Heb 10:4 *It is **impossible** for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.*
Heb 11:6 *And without faith it is **impossible** to please God.*

The book of Hebrews was written "For" us but not "To" us. I believe in context of the book, Paul is making the point that the Hebrews must not go back to a salvation of sacrifices and works.

7When the ground soaks up the falling rain and bears a good crop for the farmer, it has God's blessing. 8But if a field bears thorns and thistles, it is useless. The farmer will soon condemn that field and burn it.
9Dear friends, even though we are talking this way, we really don't believe it applies to you. We are confident that you are meant for better things, things that come with salvation. 10For God is not unjust. He will not forget how hard you have worked for him and how you have shown your love to him by caring for other believers, as you still do. 11Our great desire is that you will keep on loving others as long as life lasts, in order to make certain that what you hope for will come true. 12Then you will not become spiritually dull and indifferent. Instead, you will follow the example of those who are going to inherit God's promises because of their faith and endurance.

Chapter 6

3rd Warning … more severe

God's Promises Bring Hope

13For example, there was God's promise to Abraham. Since there was no one greater to swear by, God took an oath in his own name, saying:
14"I will certainly bless you,
and I will multiply your descendants beyond number."c
15Then Abraham waited patiently, and he received what God had promised.
16Now when people take an oath, they call on someone greater than themselves to hold them to it. And without any question that oath is binding. 17God also bound himself with an oath, so that those who received the promise could be perfectly sure that he would never change his mind. 18So God has given both his promise and his oath. These two things are unchangeable because it is impossible for God to lie. Therefore, we who have fled to him for refuge can have great confidence as we hold to the hope that lies before us. 19This hope is a strong and trustworthy anchor for our souls. It leads us through the curtain into God's inner sanctuary. 20Jesus has already gone in there for us. He has become our eternal High Priest in the order of Melchizedek.

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One noted historian states … Before their sale was forbidden in 1563 (and perhaps covertly sold afterward), **indulgences** were marketed by the Catholic church. Purchasers were promised that, for a set amount of money, they could pre-absolve sins they were planning to commit in the coming days. And you could also purchase them for dead relatives to get them out of purgatory.

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14"I will certainly bless you,and I will multiply your descendants beyond number."
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Before he enter on the Execution of his Office, he shall take the following Oath or Affirmation:– I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my Ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States. He does this with hand on Bible, taking an oath by invoking a higher power.

16Now when people take an oath, they call on someone greater than themselves to hold them to it. And without any question that oath is binding.

Oaths played a big part in the ancient biblical days. There are recorded oaths going back to 1400 BC where the Hittites wood win a battle over a city King, then the city King would make an oath of fealty to the king invoking the name of the Hittite's gods
Found in clay tablets in cuneiform.
"Thus says His Majesty, Suppiluliuma, Great King, King of Hatti, Beloved of the Storm God: You, Aziru, ruler of Amurru, shall swear loyalty to me and my descendants. By the gods of Hatti and Amurru, this oath binds you."
Oaths terms (treaty)
1.Report conspirators
2.Military obligations
3.Paying annual tribute
4.No foreign diplomacy

The King also made promises of protection. One could always flee to him if there was danger.

Chapter 6

3rd Warning … more severe

17God also bound himself with an oath, so that those who received the promise could be perfectly sure that he would never change his mind. 18 God has given both his promise and his oath. These two things are unchangeable because it is impossible for God to lie.

Since is is impossible for God to lie, why not just say the words, and oath seems an unnecessary binding of God. But here's what Clement of Alexandria said of this.
Clement of Alexandria (c. 150–215 CE), an early Christian theologian and philosopher, addressed the - In *Stromateis 7.8*,

"The Lord condescends to our frailty, binding Himself by an oath to persuade us of His promises."

This reflects Clement's view that divine oaths are not for God's sake but for ours, demonstrating His patience and willingness to meet us in our limitat

While Clement acknowledges the provisional validity of oaths in the Old Testament, he aligns with Jesus' critique in the Sermon on the Mount. For Clement, the ideal Christian transcends the need for oaths because their life is wholly aligned with divine truth.

"The perfect person does not swear, for their 'yes' is yes and their 'no' is no, as the Lord commanded."

.

18b. Therefore, we who have fled to him for refuge can have great confidence as we hold to the hope that lies before us. 19This hope is a strong and trustworthy anchor for our souls. It leads us through the curtain into God's inner sanctuary. 20Jesus has already gone in there for us. He has become our eternal High Priest in the order of Melchizedek

Chapter 7

Hebrews 6:19 Our hope in Jesus …. "*leads us through the curtain into God's inner sanctuary. 20 Jesus has already gone in there for us. He has become our eternal High Priest in the order of Melchizedek*."

Before we begin reading Chapter 7, there are three considerations:
1. Construction: 3 points and close
2. The Duties of the High Priest
3. The Law of Moses vs The Law of Christ

1. Construction:

One of the things every seminary student should learn is how to construct a proper sermon. A good sermon should have two or three points and then a conclusion. Each point should have a scripture to anchor the point, followed by a commentary on that scripture. These points then should bring us to a logical conclusion. In Hebrews, Paul provides us a master class on how to do this.

Point 1: v1-10 Genesis 14 Melchizedek is greater than Levitical Priests
Point 2: v11-22 Psalms 110 Jesus is like Melchizedek
Conclusion: v23-28 Jesus is our Great High Priest forever

2. The Duties of the High Priest

Leviticus 16 describes one of the most significant duties of the High Priest. Once each year he would enter into the Most Holy Place, into the very presence of God, and offer proof of a sacrifice for the forgiveness of the sins if Israel. We could draw many comparisons between what the High Priest did and what Jesus did. But let us look at just one aspect for now.

3 This is how Aaron is to enter the Holy Place: with a young bull for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering. 4 He is to wear the sacred linen tunic, with linen undergarments. He must tie a linen sash around him and put on the linen turban.
14 And he is to take some of the bull's blood and sprinkle it with his finger on the east side of the mercy seat; then he shall sprinkle some of it with his finger seven times before the mercy seat.
23 Then Aaron is to enter the Tent of Meeting, take off the linen garments he put on before entering the Most Holy Place, and leave them there.

His normal vestments were very ornate. Robes and Jewels. It was clear he was a very important person. But on Yom Kippur, he wore a simple linen garment for a one time use. After the slaughter of bull, and goats, and rams, you can imagine these humble garments would be stained with blood. So he had to remove them and leave them in the holy place, then wash.

John 19:*40 Following Jewish burial custom, they wrapped Jesus' body with the spices in long sheets of linen cloth.*
The Shroud of Turin … a long sheet of lining cloth.. 14' x 34". I imagine it may have been secured by other strips of linen … like a sash.
John 20:5 *He* (Peter) *stooped and looked in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he didn't go in*

Peter may have realized at that moment … 1) that Jesus has become our high priest and entered into the Holy of Holies, leaving his sacrificial garments and 2) that this tomb wasn't the place where Jesus exited this life, but rather this tomb was the holy place, **the entrance into the heavenly Holy of Holies.**

3. The Law of Moses vs The Law of Christ

The purpose of man is to draw near to a perfect (complete) relationship with God, just as Adam had in the garden. To this end Jesus, our high priest, is our guarantee of a better covenant. The Law of Moses has been rendered useless. So we see that Chapter 7 is more than just an interesting story but a passage that has profound theological implications.

Hebrews 7:18 Yes, the old requirement about the priesthood was set aside because it was weak and useless. 19 For the law never made anything perfect
Hebrews 8:13 *When God speaks of a "new" covenant, it means he has made the first one obsolete. It is now out of date and will soon disappear.*
Galatians 3:24 … *The law was our guardian until Christ came; it protected us until we could be made right with God through faith. 25 And now that the way of faith has come, we no longer need the law as our guardian.*

Law or Moses	Compared to the	Law of Christ
Levitical Priests		Melchizedek as Priest
Established by circumcision		Established by Faith
Temporary		Forever
Moral Law – 10 Command.		Do not even hate
Civil Law		Obey the government
Religious Law – Sacrifices		Jesus is our sacrifice
Ritual Laws – do not eat …		All food is clean
Exclusive – Chosen people		Go into all the nations

So – now to the story

Commentary on Genesis 14

*1This Melchizedek was **king** of the city of Salem and also a **priest** of God Most High. When Abraham was returning home after winning a great battle against the kings, Melchizedek met him and blessed him.*
In all of Israel, a King was never a priest. And a Priest was never a king. Actually, when King Saul did not wait for a priest and he offered a sacrifice, God declared that his kingship would not stand. There is only one other person in the Bible that is both King and Priest … Jesus. Rev. 19:16 *On his robe at his thigh was written this title: **King of all kings** and Lord of all lords* .Hebrews 7:26 *He is the kind of high priest we need because he is holy and blameless*

Genesis 14 tells the story of a king; a big bully who was stealing the lunch money of the weaker kings. He got together with other bully want-to-be's and they made the mistake of taking the lunch money from the King of Sodom and even took some of the people as slaves. Oops! They took Lot, Abraham's nephew. So Abraham knew the only way to he treat such bullies is to punch back. So, he and 130 of his compatriots came after the King bully and took all their money and took Lot back. As they arrived near Sodom we read …

*Gen 14:17 After Abram returned from his victory over Kedorlaomer and all his allies, the king of Sodom went out to meet him in the valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). 18 And Melchizedek, the king of Salem and a priest of God Most High, brought Abram some **bread and wine**. 19 Melchizedek **blessed Abram** with this blessing: "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth. 20 And blessed be God Most High, who has defeated your enemies for you." Then **Abram gave** Melchizedek **a tenth** of all the goods he had recovered.*

You could wonder why Abram tithed and what Melchizedek might have used this tithe for. While there may be no definitive answer, a few things come to mind. First, there are historical writings predating Abram indicating a custom of tribute following a victory. A famous Sumerian text, the "Stele of the Vultures" (circa 2450 BC) mentions tribute and offerings to gods after a battle, but it's more about spoils than a systematic tenth. How might He have used this tithe? Consider the city-state battles may have killed many men leaving towns with widows and orphans. Deuteronomy 14: **28** *"At the end of every third year, bring the entire **tithe** of that year's harvest and store it in the nearest town. **29**Give it to the Levites, who will receive no allotment of land among you, as well as to the foreigners living among you, the **orphans**, and the **widows** in your towns, so they can eat and be satisfied*. And God seems to be the one who wants to help the orphans in Jeremiah 49:11 he says , "*I will protect the orphans who remain among you."* And finally, this sentiment is echoed in the New Testament in Paul's charge to Timothy 5:3 "*Take care of any widow who has no one else to care for her.*"

Paul continues …
*2Then Abraham took a tenth of all he had captured in battle and gave it to Melchizedek. The name Melchizedek means "king of justice (*righteousness)*," and king of Salem means "king of peace."*

Think for a minute of the Jehovah names of God. Jehovah Jirah – God, my provider; or Jehovah Rapha – God, my healer; of Jehovah Tsadaquh– God, my Righteousness (Jer. 23:6). The Hebrew name is King melek Righteousness Tsadaquh sis caw saw
Salem shalom peace Jerusalem

3There is no record of his father or mother or any of his ancestors—no beginning or end to his life. He remains a priest forever, resembling the Son of God.

Some think this is a theophany others say it is a Christophany – a pre-incarnate Jesus. But either way he represents Jesus.

4Consider then how great this Melchizedek was. Even Abraham, the great patriarch of Israel, recognized this by giving him a tenth of what he had taken in battle. 5Now the law of Moses required that the priests, who are descendants of Levi, must collect a tithe from the rest of the people of Israel, who are also descendants of Abraham. 6But Melchizedek, who was not a descendant of Levi, collected a tenth from Abraham.

6. And Melchizedek placed a blessing upon Abraham, the one who had already received the promises of God. 7And without question, the person who has the power to give a blessing is greater than the one who is blessed.

The point: Melchizedek is greater than Abram.

8

8.The priests who collect tithes are men who die, so Melchizedek is greater than they are, because we are told that he lives on. 9In addition, we might even say that these Levites—the ones who collect the tithe—paid a tithe to Melchizedek when their ancestor Abraham paid a tithe to him. 10For although Levi wasn't born yet, the seed from which he came was in Abraham's body when Melchizedek collected the tithe from him.

The point: Abraham is greater than Levi

Galatians 3:***23*** *Before the way of faith in Christ was available to us, we were placed under guard by the law. We were kept in* ***protective custody****, so to speak, until the way of faith was revealed.*
24*Let me put it another way. The law was our* ***guardian*** *until Christ came; it protected us until we could be made right with God through faith.* ***25****And now that the way of faith has come, we no longer need the law as our guardian.*
29*And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham. You are his heirs, and* ***God's promise to Abraham belongs to you.***

The point: **We are not heirs of the law but of promise** – a better covenant. This is due to Abraham being greater than Levi; and Melchizedek being greater than Abraham.

Are Levitical Blessings Promised to Believers?

Not directly. Here's why:

1. **Fulfillment in Christ**: The New Testament reframes the law's purpose. Hebrews 7-10 argues that the Levitical system—priests, sacrifices, blessings—was a shadow pointing to Christ. The blessings of obedience under that system (e.g., crops and peace) aren't reiterated as promises for believers today. Instead, Jesus fulfills the law (Matthew 5:17), offering spiritual equivalents: eternal life (John 3:16), peace with God (Romans 5:1), and provision through faith (Matthew 6:33).

2. **Abrahamic, Not Mosaic**: Paul in Galatians 3:7-9 links believers to Abraham's blessing (Genesis 12:2-3)—justification by faith and inclusion in God's family—not the conditional Levitical blessings. The Mosaic covenant was temporary, for Israel, until the "seed" (Christ) came (Galatians 3:19).

3. **New Context**: The New Testament doesn't promise land or national dominance to Christians. Instead, blessings like the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12) focus on spiritual realities—comfort, mercy, seeing God—often amid suffering, not prosperity.

Commentary on Psalm 110

*11So if the priesthood of Levi, on which the law was based, could have achieved the perfection (*telos-Completion) *God intended, why did God need to establish a different priesthood, with a priest in the order of Melchizedek instead of the order of Levi and Aaron? 12And if the priesthood is changed, the law must also be changed* (metanothosis) *to permit it.*

Paul is giving these Jewish believers yet another shock. In the past, the Temple sacrifices made things right with God. Now they learn that that old law could not completely achieve God's purposes, so a new priesthood and laws are needed.

13For the priest we are talking about belongs to a different tribe, whose members have never served at the altar as priests. 14What I mean is, our Lord came from the tribe of Judah, and Moses never mentioned priests coming from that tribe. Jesus Is like Melchizedek.

Psalms 110: *4The LORD has sworn and will not change His mind: "You are a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek."*

15This change has been made very clear since a different priest, who is like Melchizedek, has appeared. 16Jesus became a priest, not by meeting the physical requirement of belonging to the tribe of Levi, but by the power of a life that cannot be destroyed. 17And the psalmist pointed this out when he prophesied,
"You are a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek."
*18Yes, the old requirement about the priesthood was **set aside** because it was **weak** and **useless**. 19For the law never made anything perfect. But now we have confidence in a better hope, through which we draw near to God.*
*20This new system was **established with a solemn oath**. Aaron's descendants became priests without such an oath, 21but there was an oath regarding Jesus. For God said to him, "The LORD has taken an oath and will not break his vow: 'You are a priest forever.'"*

The Bible uses Promise, Oath, Swear, and Vow almost interchangeable. And the Levitical priests were not sworn in by an oath. An oath is a deeply significant act, steeped in both cultural and spiritual weight. It isn't just a mere promise—it was a binding commitment. Oaths were a way to guarantee trust in a world where written contracts were rare, and personal honor and relationships held society together. Oaths are sacred bonds. They show up in treaties and agreements in Abram's time, often with rituals like animal sacrifices to underscore their gravity. For Abraham, though, his oaths also reflected his faith. When God swears by Himself to bless Abraham with countless offspring (Genesis 22), it's the ultimate oath—no higher authority exists, and it locks in the certainty of the promise. It's a life-and-death matter.

*22Because of this oath, Jesus is the one who guarantees this **better covenant** with God.*

The Mosaic Covenant: Deut 28:*6 Wherever you go and whatever you do, you will be blessed. 8 "The LORD will guarantee a blessing on everything you do and will fill your storehouses with grain. 11 "The LORD will give you prosperity in the land he swore to your ancestors to give you, blessing you with many children, numerous livestock, and abundant crops.*
The New Covenant: Hebrews 9:15 Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance-

23There were many priests under the old system, for death prevented them from remaining in office. 24But because Jesus lives forever, his priesthood lasts forever.

Conclusion

***25Therefore** he is able, once and forever, to save those who come to God through him. He lives forever to intercede with God on their behalf.*
*26He is the kind of high priest we need because he is **holy** and **blameless, unstained** by sin. He has been set apart from sinners and has been given the **highest place of honor** in heaven. 27Unlike those other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices every day. They did this for their own sins first and then for the sins of the people. But Jesus did this once for all when he offered himself as the sacrifice for the people's sins. 28The law appointed high priests who were limited by human weakness. But after the law was given, God appointed his Son with an oath, and his Son has been made **the perfect High Priest forever.** **AMEN***

Chapter 8

*1Here is the main point: We have a High Priest who **sat down** in the place of honor beside the throne of the majestic God in heaven.*

We have covered how Melchezidek and Jesus are similar, but we must also consider how they are different.

	Melchezidek	Jesus
He has a genealogy	N	Y
He is fully human	N	Y
He is permanent	N	Y

Q1: From eternity past was Jesus 100% God, co-equal with the Father?

John 1:1 *"In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God."*

Almost every Church affirms this as true. Notably, Jehovah Witnesses are the ones that deny the deity of Christ.

Q2: Following the incarnation, Is Jesus still 100% God?

The early Church did not use the 100% term, but recognized Jesus as Fully God and yet Fully Man.

The Bible has numerous examples of Jesus being fully man and fully God while on earth. One such example, He and the disciples are in a boat while a storm rages and a human Jesus is sound asleep. Yes, the "fully human" Jesus needed sleep. They awaken him and the "fully God Jesus" speaks to the storm "peace, be still" and the storm quiets. This is one of many verses showing this paradox of being. (Mark 4:35)

Q3: Following the resurrection, was Jesus raise spiritually, physically, or both?

New Testament Perspectives

If Jesus was raised physically in the flesh, how do we *reconciled* 1Cor 15:50 *Now this I say, brethren, that **flesh and blood** **cannot inherit the kingdom of God;** nor does corruption inherit incorruption".*

JW's "*Jesus was not resurrected in the human body in which he died. … He was raised as a spirit*. *God dissolved his human body*" What Does the Bible Really Teach? (Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, 2005), p. 67

The term "flesh and blood" is used to describe our dying earthly bodies. But our earthly bodies will be transformed into Heavenly bodies that can never die. One must read **the entire chapter** to get the context.

The New Testament contains several accounts where Jesus, after his resurrection, demonstrated a physical body. In Luke 24:36-43, he appeared to his disciples, ate fish, and invited them to touch him, proving he was not just a spirit but had "flesh and bones." Similarly, in John 20:24-29, he showed Thomas his wounds, allowing him to touch them, reinforcing his physicality.

Philippians 3:20-21 *But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior. **21**He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into **glorious bodies like his own**, using the same power with which he will bring everything under his control.*

1 John 3:2 imply he retains a glorified body "*Dear friends, we are already God's children, but he has not yet shown us what we will be like when Christ appears. But we do know that **we will be like him**, for we will see him as he really is."*

An unexpected detail is that his resurrection body could pass through walls and appear suddenly, as seen in John 20:19, yet still be tangible, indicating a transformed yet physical state.

Paul, in Philippians 3:20-21, writes, "*our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Saviour from there, Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorified body*," implying Jesus' body remains. 1 John 3:2 adds, "*we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is,*" suggesting visibility

Church Fathers' Perspectives

The early church fathers, writing from the 2nd to 5th centuries, affirmed this bodily continuity.

Tertullian, in "On the Resurrection of the Flesh" (chapter 11), states, "For the Son of God did not blush to clothe himself with the substance of our body, when he rose from the dead; nor did he think it beneath him to show to his disciples the prints of the nails and the wound in his side, as he would not have done had not **his body been raised again from the dead**,". This implies his body's persistence, though not explicitly in heaven.

Irenaeus, in "Against Heresies" (Book V, Preface), writes, "For the Word of God was made man, and He who was the Son of God became the Son of man, that man, having been taken into the Word, and receiving the adoption, might become the son of God," suggesting **Jesus' human nature, including his body, remains.**

Cyril of Jerusalem, in his Catechetical Lectures (Lecture 12, section 2), states, "let us know that He who was born of Mary, and was called Son of man, is the Son of God and God, and **ascended into the heavens in His own body,**" and in section 3, "For if He was not to be in heaven in His own body, **how is His own body to come from heaven**? For it must needs be that the body which is to come to judgment is the same which also ascended," explicitly affirming his bodily form in heaven,

The council of Chalendon 451 AD "We, then, following the holy Fathers, all with one consent, teach men to confess one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, the same perfect in Godhead and also perfect in manhood; truly God and truly man, of a reasonable [rational] soul and body; consubstantial [co-essential] with the Father according to the Godhead, and **consubstantial with us according to the Manhood**; …one and the same Christ, Son, Lord, only begotten, to be **acknowledged in two natures**, inconfusedly, unchangeably, indivisibly, **inseparably**"

Docetism states Jesus rose spiritually only, not physically. JW's believes this.

Gnostism believes all flesh is meaningless, only Spirit counts. So they would partake in blood and immorality, because what they did in the flesh did not matter. Jesus only appeared human while on earth and came to give us knowledge of spirit so that man can be freed from his bodily prison. This sounds very much new age. Many claim the Nicolaitans were Gnostics.

The Church has consistently called such beliefs heresy.

Q4: Jesus is now in heaven. Is he back to 100% God or still human and will we be resurrected in the flesh?

Jesus birth was transformative and permanent

When I was born my earthly father, he became a dad. That was a transformative and permanent change. He will always be my dad; I will always be his child. Even after he passed away, he is still my father.

But the question remains. Even if Jesus was fully man while on earth, what about after the ascension? Is He still fully man with a physical body?

Transformative… God, the Son, was 100% God from eternity past. He was not human-kind in substance. When he was born of Mary, he was transformed into a fully human while remaining fully God.

Permanent... Jesus will forever be a human and our high priest. He will never again return to 100% God but will always be **fully God**, and **fully man** being in a unique position of standing between man and the Holy Father God.
John 1:8 *The word became flesh and tabernacled with us*. In the 14 Old Testament appearances, such as Melchizedek, Jesus "appeared" in human form **temporarily** but He never tabernacled.

Church Fathers' Perspectives

1. **Athenagoras** of Athens 133-190 … *if they are able to show that it is either **impossible** for God, or **contrary** to His will, to unite and gather together again bodies that are dead, or <u>even entirely dissolved into their elements</u>, so as to constitute the same persons. If they cannot do this, let them cease from this godless disbelief, and from this blasphemy against sacred things.*.

2. **Irenaeus** of Lyons (130–202 AD) Against Heresies, Book V, Chapter 6.1: "*For if the flesh were not in a position to be saved, the Word of God would in no wise have become flesh*"

3. **Tertullian** (155–240 AD) On the Resurrection of the Flesh, Chapter 63: "*The flesh shall rise again: wholly in every man, in its own identity*"

4. **St Augustine**, on Christian Doctrine… *And if our sins are remitted and our souls renewed by grace, we may await with hope the **resurrection of the body** to eternal glory.*

5. **Justin martyr** *Those who maintain the **wrong** opinion say that there is no resurrection of the flesh.*

The Final Perspective

Hebrews 7:25 *He lives forever to **intercede** with God on their behalf.*

1st Timothy 2:5 *There is one God and one **Mediator** who can reconcile God and humanity—the **man** Christ Jesus*

Colossians 2:9 says: *"For in Christ lives all the fullness of God in a **human body**."* (NLT)

Acts 1:11 in the New Living Translation (NLT) says: "*'Men of Galilee,' they said, 'why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus has been taken from you into heaven, but someday **he will return from heaven in the same way you saw him go**!'"*

Think of how much God must love you. He looked through eternity and saw that you needed Him and it came to save you. And if it was only you that needed him, he would have come regardless because "*he is not willing that any should perish but that you should come to repentance*."

Because "*Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a* name which is above *every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father"*

And "*if we confess our mouth and believe in a heart that God raised Jesus from the dead we shall be saved for the heart man believes in the righteousness and with the mouth confession is made under salvation"*

Verse 2:

2 There he ministers in the heavenly Tabernacle, the true place of worship that was built by the Lord and not by human hands.

This establishes Christ's exalted position and introduces the heavenly sanctuary as superior to the earthly tabernacle.
The tabernacle (or tent) recalls Exodus 25-26, where God instructs Moses to build the tabernacle as a dwelling place for His presence (Ex. 25:8-9: "*Let them make me a sanctuary, that I may dwell in their midst*"). Hebrews points out that this was a shadow of the heavenly reality Christ now serves in.

Let's recap. So far, Paul has pointed out that Jesus is:

1. Better than the Prophets
2. Higher than the Angels
3. Superior than Moses
4. Better than the Law
5. Higher than the High Priests
6. and now, Greater than the Temple

3 And since every high priest is required to offer gifts and sacrifices, our High Priest must make an offering, too. 4 If he were here on earth, he would not even be a priest, since there already are priests who offer the gifts required by the law. 5 They serve in a system of worship that is only a copy, a shadow of the real one in heaven. For when Moses was getting ready to build the Tabernacle, God gave him this warning: "Be sure that you make everything according to the pattern I have shown you here on the mountain."

We will discuss the temple more when we get to chapter 9. But Paul is now going to make the Main point he talked about in verse 1.

6 But now Jesus, our High Priest, has been given a ministry that is far superior to the old priesthood, for he is the one who mediates for us a ***far better covenant*** *with God, based on better promises.*

THIS IS THE TURNING POINT … THE MAIN POINT … EVERYTHING BEFORE THIS WAS LEADING UP TO THIS POINT … **FAITH IN THE SACRIFICE OF JESUS ALONE** … AND EVERYTHING AFTER THIS POINT IS TO REINFORCE THIS FAITH.

These next verses explain that every high priest offers gifts and sacrifices, so Christ must have something to offer—His own self (Heb. 7:27). The earthly priests serve a "copy and shadow" of the heavenly reality, while Christ mediates a "better covenant" with "better promises."

Church Father Insight: St. Augustine reflects on this shift: "The Old Covenant was a figure of the New, as the shadow precedes the body. Christ, being the body, fulfills what the shadow foretold" (On the Epistle to the Hebrews, paraphrase).

*7 If the first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no need for a second covenant to replace it. 8But when God found fault with the people, he said: (*in Jeremiah 31:31) *"The day is coming, says the LORD, when I will make* ***a new covenant*** *with the people of Israel and Judah.*

Covenants:
Gen. 15:18 So the LORD ***made a covenant*** *with Abram that day …*

Karath berit = to cut a covenant
Strong's Lexicon: karath: Meaning: to cut, to destroy, consume, to covenant.
Cultural and Historical Background: In ancient Near Eastern cultures, covenants were often ratified through a ritual involving the cutting of animals. This practice is reflected in the Hebrew Bible, where "karath" is used to describe the making of covenants. The act of cutting an animal in two and passing between the pieces was a solemn ceremony that signified the binding nature of the covenant and the consequences of breaking it. This cultural practice underscores the gravity and sacredness of covenants in biblical times.

9 This covenant will not be like the one I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand and led them out of the land of Egypt. They did not remain faithful to my covenant, so I turned my back on them, says the LORD.

10But this is the new covenant ***I will*** (1) *make with the people of Israel on that day, says the LORD:* ***I will*** (2) *put my laws in their minds, and* ***I will*** (2 parallelism) *write them on their hearts.*
I will (3) *be their God, and they will be my people. 11And they will not need to teach their neighbors, nor will they need to teach their relatives, saying, 'You should know the LORD.' For everyone, from the least to the greatest, will know me already. 12 And* ***I will*** (4) *forgive their wickedness,* and **I will** (4) never again remember their sins."

Mosaic Covenant:

It also had God's **I wills**.. Ex. 6:6 … **I will** bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, **I will** rescue you from their bondage, and **I will** redeem you with [f]an outstretched arm and with great judgments. 7**I will** take you as My people …

This Mosaic Covenant had blessings and curses. The people had to obey.

Abrahamic Covenant:

Gen. 15:9 *The LORD told him, "Bring me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." 10So Abram presented all these to him and killed them. Then he cut each animal down the middle and laid the halves side by side; … 17After the sun went down and darkness fell, Abram saw a smoking firepot and a flaming torch pass between the halves of the carcasses. 18So the LORD* ***made a covenant*** *with Abram that day …*

Only God passed through – a one sided covenant – Abraham only believed.

13When God speaks of a "new" covenant, it means he has made the first one obsolete. It is now out of date and will soon disappear.

Aspect	Old Covenant (Mosaic Law)	New Covenant (Through Christ)
Basis	Law-based, external compliance	Grace-based, internal transformation (v10)
High Priest	Imperfect, needed sacrifices for self	Christ, perfect, offered Himself once for all
Tabernacle/Temple	Earthly, copy of heavenly	Heavenly, true tabernacle (v2)
Forgiveness	Temporary, required continual sacrifices	Complete, sins remembered no more (v12)
Relationship with God	Mediated through priests, distant	Direct, personal: "I will be their God" (v10)
Fulfillment	Partial, pointed to Christ	Fulfilled in Christ, ongoing and eternal

So, Chapter 8 invites believers to see Christ's work as the ultimate revelation of God's presence—not in a tent of fabric, but in the heart and in heaven. The Old Testament tabernacle and sacrifices were pointers, like a map to a destination; Christ is our destination.

Chapter 9

1That first covenant between God and Israel had regulations for worship and a place of worship here on earth. 2There were two rooms in that Tabernacle. In the first room were a lampstand, a table, and sacred loaves of bread on the table. This room was called the Holy Place. 3Then there was a curtain, and behind the curtain was the second room called the Most Holy Place. 4In that room were a gold incense altar and a wooden chest called the Ark of the Covenant, which was covered with gold on all sides. Inside the Ark were a gold jar containing manna, Aaron's staff that sprouted leaves, and the stone tablets of the covenant. 5Above the Ark were the cherubim of divine glory, whose wings stretched out over the Ark's cover, the place of atonement. But we cannot explain these things in detail now.

6When these things were all in place, the priests regularly entered the first room as they performed their religious duties. 7But only the high priest ever entered the Most Holy Place, and only once a year. And he always offered blood for his own sins and for the sins the people had committed in ignorance. 8By these regulations the Holy Spirit revealed that the entrance to the Most Holy Place was not freely open as long as the Tabernacle and the system it represented were still in use.

9This is an illustration pointing to the present time. For the gifts and sacrifices that the priests offer are not able to cleanse the consciences of the people who bring them. 10For that old system deals only with food and drink and various cleansing ceremonies—physical regulations that were in effect only until a better system could be established.

Christ Is the Perfect Sacrifice

11So Christ has now become the High Priest over all the good things that have come. He has entered that greater, more perfect Tabernacle in heaven, which was not made by human hands and is not part of this created world. 12With his own blood—not the blood of goats and calves—he entered the Most Holy Place once for all time and secured our redemption forever.

*13Under the old system, the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer could cleanse people's bodies from ceremonial impurity. 14Just think how much more the blood of Christ will purify our consciences from sinful deeds so that we can worship the living God. For by the power of the eternal Spirit, Christ offered himself to God as a perfect sacrifice for our sins. 15That is why he is the one who **mediates** a new covenant between God and people, so that all who are called can receive the eternal inheritance God has promised them. For Christ died to set them free from the penalty of the sins they had committed under that first covenant.*

16 Now when someone leaves a will, it is necessary to prove that the person who made it is dead. 17 The will goes into effect only after the person's death. While the person who made it is still alive, the will cannot be put into effect.
18 That is why even the first covenant was put into effect with the blood of an animal. 19 For after Moses had read each of God's commandments to all the people, he took the blood of calves and goats, along with water, and sprinkled both the book of God's law and all the people, using hyssop branches and scarlet wool. 20Then he said, "This blood confirms the covenant God has made with you." 21And in the same way, he sprinkled blood on the Tabernacle and on everything used for worship. 22In fact, according to the law of Moses, nearly everything was purified with blood. For without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness.
23That is why the Tabernacle and everything in it, which were copies of things in heaven, had to be purified by the blood of animals. But the real things in heaven had to be purified with far better sacrifices than the blood of animals.
24For Christ did not enter into a holy place made with human hands, which was only a copy of the true one in heaven. He entered into heaven itself to appear now before God on our behalf. 25And he did not enter heaven to offer himself again and again, like the high priest here on earth who enters the Most Holy Place year after year with the blood of an animal. 26If that had been necessary, Christ would have had to die again and again, ever since the world began. But now, once for all time, he has appeared at the end of the age to remove sin by his own death as a sacrifice.
27And just as each person is destined to die once and after that comes judgment, 28so also Christ was offered once for all time as a sacrifice to take away the sins of many people. He will come again, not to deal with our sins, but to bring salvation to all who are eagerly waiting for him.

Chapter 10

The 5th Warning:

26Dear friends, if we deliberately continue sinning after we have received knowledge of the truth, there is no longer any sacrifice that will cover these sins. 27There is only the terrible expectation of God's judgment and the raging fire that will consume his enemies. 28For anyone who refused to obey the law of Moses was put to death without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29Just think how much worse the punishment will be for those who have trampled on the Son of God, and have treated the blood of the covenant, which made us holy, as if it were common and unholy, and have insulted and disdained the Holy Spirit who brings God's mercy to us. 30For we know the one who said,
"I will take revenge.
I will pay them back."
He also said,
"The LORD will judge his own people."
31It is a terrible thing to fall into the hands of the living God.
32Think back on those early days when you first learned about Christ. Remember how you remained faithful even though it meant terrible suffering. 33Sometimes you were exposed to public ridicule and were beaten, and sometimes you helped others who were suffering the same things. 34You suffered along with those who were thrown into jail, and when all you owned was taken from you, you accepted it with joy. You knew there were better things waiting for you that will last forever.
35So do not throw away this confident trust in the Lord. Remember the great reward it brings you! 36Patient endurance is what you need now, so that you will continue to do God's will. Then you will receive all that he has promised.
37"For in just a little while,
the Coming One will come and not delay.
38And my righteous ones will live by faith.
But I will take no pleasure in anyone who turns away."
39But we are not like those who turn away from God to their own destruction. We are the faithful ones, whose souls will be saved.

Q: Does this verse indicate that some may fall from grace under special circumstances?

Q: Is this person saved ?

Q: What are you expecting at God's judgment Day?

Chapter 10

Pastor: Story about Billy Graham's friend

Chris Templeton in "Farewell to God" (1996) page 7, *It is simply not possible any longer to believe, for instance, the biblical account of creation. The world was not created over a period of days a few thousand years ago; it has evolved over millions of years.*

The Controversy

"It is a doctrine full of comfort. But it is not true that all who are once justified will necessarily be saved. Some fall from grace. They may fall and perish."— John Wesley, Sermon 1: Salvation by Faith

"Security comes through continuing in faith in Christ and obedience to His Word. Apostasy is an act of a professed Christian who deliberately rejects the truth of God's Word and turns from it."— Assemblies of God, Statement of Fundamental Truths, Truth #5

Joby Martin Run Over By the Grace Train, he writes: "*We are saved by grace alone, grace can't be lost, grace does not condemn and the sinner and the saint both need God's powerful grace in equal measures*."

Some at that time waited until near death for baptism so that they would not have the chance for deliberate and continual sin. Emperor Constantine (325), for example. This has led some historians to believe that his conversion was not real.

."

Chapter 10

You can't fall

Irenaeus (Against Heresies) born 130; 2nd gen church father; John… Polycarp … Irenaeus - Irenaeus *contrasts the Old Covenant's repeated sacrifices with Christ's singular sacrifice. Hebrews 10:26 underscores that rejecting this final sacrifice leaves no alternative, as the Law's shadow is obsolete.*

Joby Martin Run Over By the Grace Train, he writes: "*We are saved by grace alone, grace can't be lost, grace does not condemn and the sinner and the saint both need God's powerful grace in equal measures*."

This is not saying Christ's sacrifice is insufficient. Instead, it emphasizes that there is no alternative. If someone knowingly rejects Christ's once-for-all sacrifice, there is no other sacrifice left to cover sin. ChatGPT

Ez 36:25 *I will also sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean. I will cleanse you from all your impurities and all your idols* 26 *I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will remove your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put My Spirit within you and (I will) cause you to walk in My statutes …*

PHL 1:6 *And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished …*

1st Jn 3:9 *Anyone born of God refuses to practice sin, because God's seed abides in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God. 10 By this the children of God are distinguished from the children of the devil*. This verse negates the ability for new covenant believers to continue in deliberate sin. By our free will we made Jesus Lord and King … and now He causes us to not sin.

1st Jn 4:17 *We have no fear of punishment. We do have confidence on the day of judgement*.

Jn 14:27 *My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one can snatch them away from me, 29 for my Father has given them to me, and he is more powerful than anyone else. No one can snatch them from the Father's hand. 30 The Father and I are one*."

Conclusion

If a church member is one that continues in deliberate sin, and cannot believe fully in God's word, and is fearful about the "day of judgment"; that person should consider the validity of their salvation and seek God.

Chapter 11 – Heroes of our Faith

What faith is not:

1. Not wishful thinking: Faith isn't just hoping or believing something will happen because you want it to.

2. Not blind acceptance: Faith is not simply believing something without any evidence or reason.

3. Not a feeling: While feelings can be part of the experience, faith isn't solely a subjective emotional state.

4. Not a power or force: Faith isn't something you can use to manipulate or control God.

5. Not just words: Faith needs to be accompanied by actions, demonstrating the reality of the belief.

6. Not a decision of the will: Faith is a response to God's grace, a trust in his character and promises.

7. Not a "leap" into the unknown: Faith is based on a foundation of knowledge and trust in God's character, not a blind leap.

Compare the description of faith in Hebrews 11:1 to the "Ask anything" verse in John 14:13 and Mark 11:24

John 14:13 *You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, so that the Son can bring glory to the Father. 14 Yes, ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it!*

Mark 11:24 *Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, <u>believe</u> that you have received it, and it will be yours.*

Q: Is it always God's will to heal?

Q: is it always God's will for you to have a great marriage?

Q: is it God's will for you to get that perfect job, car, spouse if you have faith in prayer?

What Faith is:

1 Faith *shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see.*

If you compare this verse in multiple translations you find diversity in translations. There are 4 key words found in this one verse and used rarely in other scriptures. So there is no comparing scripture to scripture.

Faith is the reality (hypostasis) … (TLB), confidence (NIV), substance (KJV), certainty (NAS), foundation, assurance (AMP),

Literally: Hypo - under. stasis - stand … or the foundational reality

Hebrews 1:3 *The Son radiates God's own glory and expresses (*hypostaseōs**)** *the very character of God,*

Greek Title Deed

Witnessed Transactions: Property transfers in Athens often involved oral agreements in front of witnesses, sometimes recorded in rudimentary contracts. These agreements, whether oral or written, were the hypostasis of the transaction, providing the substantive proof of who owned what. In disputes, courts would rely on witness testimony or written records to verify claims, treating them as the legal "substance" of ownership.

*of the things hoped (*elpizomenōn*) for* … (TLB), divinely guaranteed (AMP)

Gk. Philosophy - Combines emphasis on divine promises with the human capacity to anticipate. One thing most of the heroes had in common was having faith **after** hearing from God.

Have you ever received a "divine guarantee"? If so, what is it? *All who call on the name of the LORD will be saved.*

What Faith is:

the evidence (elenchus*)* … (TLB), assurance (NIV), conviction (ESV), certainty (BSB), proof (NAS)

In philosophy, "elenchos" is key to the Socratic Method, a technique where Socrates would question his student to reveal inconsistencies in their beliefs. This process involves leading through logical steps to refute or prove a claim, often described as a "negative" approach to eliminate false beliefs or prove a true belief.

- **Questioner**: What does having faith mean to you?
- **You (might say)**: Faith means believing in God even though I can't see Him.
- **Questioner**: Why do you believe in God? What makes you trust that belief?
- **You**: I feel a sense of peace when I pray, and I've seen things happen that I think are answers to prayers.
- **Questioner**: Could that sense of peace come from something else, like your own mind or coincidence? How do you know it's tied to your belief in God?

Of things we cannot see (*blepomenōn)* …(NLT), not seen (ESV), what cannot be experienced by the physical senses (AMP),

The exercise of our faith is the evidence to God that we actually do believe in things we cannot see.

A Very amplified vesion*: Faith is the underlying substantive proof, like that of a title deed, of things divinely spoken and the certain proof of things that we cannot experience with just our senses*.

2 Through their faith, the people in days of old earned a good reputation.

What Faith is:

*3 By faith we understand that the **entire universe was formed at God's command**, that what we now see did not come from anything that can be seen.*

faith is a present tense noun, meaning current faith … not the faith of the past heroes, but Paul's faith then and your faith today.

Universe (*aeonas)* used more than 60 times and always translated forever. As in Hebrews 13:8 *Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

Formed (*katērtisthai)* created with divine intent.

Wow! If they was ever a verse that spoke to us in the 21st century, this is it! Up until the 20th century almost everyone believed that the universe was created. And it just didn't come into existence from nothing, from a big bang. It was like God is saying "I *think I'll throw this in for people in the 21st century, so they can exercise their faith in me*."

This was Charles Templeton's problem. He stopped believing Genesis. He believed the earth was billions of years old. This is the reason apologetics is important.

John 3:12 *But if you don't believe me when I tell you about earthly things, how can you possibly believe if I tell you about heavenly things?*

John 5:47 *But since you don't believe what he* (Moses) *wrote, how will you believe what I say?"*

Jer. 32:17 "*O Sovereign LORD! You made the heavens and earth (by your strong hand and powerful arm.) Nothing is too hard for you*!

Isaiah 45:18 *For the LORD is God, and he created the heavens and earth and put everything in place. He made the world to be lived in, not to be a place of empty chaos.*

Numbers 14:36 12 spies sent out. Only Joshua and Caleb trusted. Whose report will you believe?

If God says I have eternal life then I have eternal life. If God says he created the Earth in 6 days; then in 6 days he created the Earth. This all ties into the previous chapter so elegantly.

A small detour into apologetics

Big bang James web sees spiral galaxies. Star formation is perplexing to scientists. Boyles law, helium balloon.

Everything gives birth after its own kind.

DNA like a computer code

Age of the earth. Fossilized trees spanning multiple geological eras. Plane in Greenland. Lack of erosion in the Grand Canyon. Radiometric dating ages current rocks at billions of years old.

Chimps and humans are 99% similar in DNA. Just a lie. The truth is we are similar in certain genes that have the same function. taking the whole DNA it's about 70%. Protein synthesis.

It is all nothing more than a “just so" story.

A good time to take a detour into

“Young Earth Apologetics”

Who is the first man in the Bible declared righteous because of their faith?

4 ***It was by faith*** *that Abel brought a more acceptable* ***offering*** *to God than Cain did. Abel's offering gave evidence that he was a* ***righteous man****, and God showed his approval of his gifts. Although Abel is long dead, he still speaks to us by his example of faith.*

> Genesis 4:1 *Now Adam had sexual relations with his wife, Eve, and she became pregnant. When she gave birth to Cain, she said, "With the LORD's help, I have produced a man!" 2Later she gave birth to his brother and named him Abel.*
> *When they grew up, Abel became a shepherd, while Cain cultivated the ground. 3When it was time for the harvest, Cain presented some of his crops as a gift to the LORD. 4Abel also brought a gift—the best portions of the firstborn lambs from his flock. The LORD accepted Abel and his gift, 5but he did not accept Cain and his gift. This made Cain very angry, and he looked dejected.*
> *6"Why are you so angry?" the LORD asked Cain. "Why do you look so dejected? 7You will be accepted if you do what is right. But if you refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you. But you must subdue it and be its master."*
> *8One day Cain suggested to his brother, "Let's go out into the fields." And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother, Abel, and killed him.*

But this passage brings up as many questions as answers

What was the origin of sacrifice? (Genesis 4:3)?
What was the time of the sacrifice?
(NLT says harvest but it is the only translation and "qasir" harvest is not in gen 4)
What was the place of the sacrifice?
What was the proper sacrifice?
What is the meaning of Cain's name?
Why did God reject Cain's sacrifice? (Genesis 4:5)?
Were Cain and Abel sinners? All have sinned and come short of the glory of God.
X Did Cain confess his deed to his parents?
X Is every baby born of woman a sinner by birth?
X Did he kill Abel the same day? Vav disjunctive
X Whose vengeance did Cain fear? (Genesis 4:14)?
X Who was Cain's wife (Genesis 4:17)?

As it is, such questions are incapable of being answered completely. But maybe, just maybe, God put these questions in the Bible just so we could ponder and meditate on them. So we will do a little pondering and meditating today.

Abel - 3 points

1. A Contrast between Abel and Cain
2. Abel brought a more acceptable offering
3. Abel's offering gave evidence that he was a righteous man,

Genesis 4:1 … *she said "With the **LORD's** help, **I** have produced a man."*

Contrast with what it she did not say "with **Adams** help, **we** have produced a man." Even today, most women say they had a baby – now it is true, that only a woman can give birth, but men did help out in the whole baby making process.

Not **WE**, as in Eve and Adam, but Eve said **I,** like Adam did not even help in the process.

She did not Acknowledge **Adam**, but acknowledged the **LORD**.

Why would Eve make such a statement?

1. Hebrew scholars say that Cain's name, "qanah", means "**he has arrived**" or others say " I have gotten"
2. Abel's name, "hevel", means breath or **vapor**.

Names seem important to God. God changed Abram to Abraham. He named Isaac for Sarah's laughter, and renamed Jacob to Israel.

A Fun "maybe" prophesy – not for doctrine – just a cool thing

Biblical Name	Hebrew meaning :	English meaning :
Adam	Red, black, white or more generally man	MAN
Seth	"God has appointed me another son"	APPOINTED
Enosh	Root word of mortal	MORTAL
Kenan		SORROW
Mahalalel	Praise or Blessing plus EL God	THE BLESSED GOD
Jared		SHALL COME DOWN
Enoch		TEACHING
Methuselah	the flood started the year he died	HIS DEATH SHALL BRING
Lamech	Root for lament despair	DESPARING
Noah	he will bring us rest	REST

"MAN is APPOINTED to MORTAL SORROW; but THE BLESSED GOD SHALL COME DOWN TEACHING that HIS DEATH SHALL BRING the DESPAIRING REST."

Abel - 3 points

Why would Cain be given such a name?

1. Genesis 3:15 *And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed;* ***He shall crush your head****, and you shall bruise His heel.*
2. We can assume that Eve heard and believed God's promise that her seed would crush the head of the devil.
3. Eve may have thought that Cain was the promised one, thus naming him “He has arrived” or Cain.

So, just based on their names, I could see how the two sons may have grown up with different attitudes. Cain being the “son of promise”, self-confident, and doing things his way. Abel knowing that he needed God’s grace.

I think Adam and Eve must have surely told the boys the story of the fall and of God's promise and how they sewed for leaves, but God covered them with the bloody skins of an animal.

Abel - 3 points

So that when it came time for the offering Abel brought a better sacrifice, a blood offering. And Cain did things his way, and was not accepted.

Abel understood he was a sinner and so by faith Abel gave a more acceptable sacrifice and was evidence of his righteousness from God by faith. *The just shall live by faith.*

Do we get any insight from the Bible as to Cain's attitude?
Jude 10-*11 these people scoff at things they do not understand. Like unthinking animals, they do whatever their instincts tell them, and so they bring about their own destruction. 11 What sorrow awaits them! For they follow in the footsteps of Cain.*

1st John 3:12 *We must not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and killed his brother. And why did he kill him? Because Cain had been doing what was evil, and his brother had been doing what was righteous.*

After God did not accept Cain's offering, He gave Cain the opportunity to repent by saying "*If you do right you will be accepted*." In doing right meant doing in faith what God said, but Cain an opportunity to repent and offer a blood sacrifice but he refused God's mercy.

It's kind of like the teenager that is told by his parents, "*I want you to stay home and study for your final test tomorrow at school*". Instead the child mows the yard, washes the car, takes out the trash, cleans his room, and stays out late. He does a lot of work, but he doesn't do the one thing required of him.

God expanded the scope of forgiveness:

1. Cain and Abel's sacrifice was for one lamb for one person.
2. The Passover was for one lamb for one household.
3. The Day of Atonement was one lamb for one nation.
4. Calvary was one lamb for the world.

Abel is the first person that God declared righteous through faith. If you would have asked be last week who is the first person to receive righteousness through faith, I would have probably said Abraham.

Abel - 3 points

Gen 22: the first time the word worship is used in the Bible is in Genesis 22 where Abraham tells his companions to wait here at the bottom of the mountain while him and the boy Isaac go to the top of the mountain and worship. So it was clear that worship involved a sacrifice.

In the Bible, you cannot have true worship without some form of offering (whether an animal, praise, or your own life), and an offering is meaningless—or even rejected—if it is not an expression of true worship.

The progression is:

1. Old Testament: Worship → Physical Offerings (animals, grain)

2. New Testament: Worship → Spiritual Offerings (our lives, praise, service, gifts)

To Adam and Eve, worship would have been at the time and place and manner of God's choosing.

Time … not clear what that time was. Maybe yearly; to remember their fall from the garden and God's daily presence.

(*I come to the garden alone when the dew is still on the roses; . and walks with me and he talks with me and he tells me I am his own. and the joy we share as we linger there: none other has ever known*)

Place … I am thinking that they would find God at the place they least left him. At the entrance to the garden. The angels remained there to guard the garden, so it must have still been around. And in the holy of holies in the tabernacle and in the temple, there were 2 angels bowed before the mercy seat.

Manner … if it was yearly, that would bring to mind the day of atonement, where a blood sacrifice would be made for a temporary covering for the repentant sinner.

Abel - 3 points

And herein lies the problem with Cain's offering. He did not bring a blood sacrifice. *Without the shedding of blood, there's no forgiveness of sin*. So Cain just decided to worship God in the way that he wanted or he decided that he wasn't a sinner in need of a sacrifice. In either event, God did not respect Cain's offering.

And I do not think that either of the boys could claim ignorance of how God prescribed worship and offerings. It is hard to imagine that Adam would not have sat down and told the boys the story of him and Eve's time in the garden and how God said "in that day you will surely die." And he would have explained how God clothed them both in animal skins as a temporary substitute for their sin.

Cain's sacrifice was not accepted, Cain believed in God. But he wanted to come to God on his own terms. The n.t. calls him evil. He fell into the same trap his momma did. He listened to the voice of the devil and became of him.

And I can also imagine Adam and Eve both having a desire to get back into the garden if they could just crush Satan's head.

What does this tell us about worship in our day?

Time: now is the time

Place: at the cross

Manner: We must also come into God's presence in the manner He has prescribed. Jesus said no one comes to the father except by me. And Hebrews tells us that we can come boldly before the throne of those because of the blood of Jesus. Not by Good works. Not by praying rosary. It certainly not by Muhammad, Buddha, or any other religion, .

We just need to do what is right and accept Christ's offering on the cross to be accepted by God. And that's why Abel is our first hero of the faith!

Paul stated this work vs. faith situation in Phil 3:6 *And as for righteousness, I obeyed the law without fault. 7 I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. 8 Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ 9 and become one with him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ.*

Abel - 3 points

Luke 18:9 *Then Jesus told this story to some who had great confidence in their own righteousness and scorned everyone else: 10"Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a despised tax collector. 11The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed this prayerb: 'I thank you, God, that I am not like other people—cheaters, sinners, adulterers. I'm certainly not like that tax collector! 12I fast twice a week, and I give you a tenth of my income.' 13"But the tax collector stood at a distance and dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed. Instead, he beat his chest in sorrow, saying, 'O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.' 14I tell you, this sinner, not the Pharisee, returned home justified before God. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted*

Q: is every baby then born a sinner?

Augustine came up with his doctrine of original sin based on Romans 5:12
Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, <u>In whom all sinned</u> (Vulgate)

And

Psalms 5:15 *in sin my mother conceived me* poetic hyperbole

The Catholics took St Augustine's doctrine and believed it and made him a saint and that is why they baptize babies.

12 When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned (NLT).

If everyone was born with Adams sin, and we do not have personal responsibility for our own sin and free will to not sin then God's justice against sin is undermined

If everyone was born with Adam's sin, then Jesus was born with Adam's sin. Yet the Bible clearly states that he was without sin.

If everyone is born with Adam's sin and God cannot allow sin into his presence then how can babies go to heaven?

Cain's was like the Pharisee, the chosen one, self-confident, self-exalted, and self-righteous.
Whereas Abel reflected his name, knowing that sinful life is but a vapor before a righteous God and was humble before the Lord.

Each hero had their individual challenges. Most had significant character flaws. Lies, deceit, lust, adultery, murder.

*5 It was by faith that **Enoch** was taken up to heaven without dying—"he disappeared, because God took him." For before he was taken up, he was known as a person who pleased God.*

I said most had character flaws. Maybe not Enoch.

*6And **it is impossible to please God without faith**. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.*

Short lesson today. The Bible has almost nothing to say about Enoch.

Genesis 5:21 *When Enoch was 65 years old, he became the father of Methuselah. 22 After the birth of Methuselah, Enoch lived in close fellowship with God for another 300 years, and he had other sons and daughters. 23 Enoch lived 365 years, 24 walking in close fellowship with God. Then one day he disappeared, because God took him.*

Jude 14 *Enoch, who lived in the seventh generation after Adam, prophesied about these people. He said, "Listen! The Lord is coming with countless thousands of his holy ones 15 to execute judgment on the people of the world…*

Wait? What? How is Jude quoting Enoch? There is no record in Genesis or anywhere else in the Bible that Enoch prophesied anything.

Book of Enoch: Written from 300bc. Jude is quoting directly from it. The book is found in the Dead Sea scrolls. It is not part of the Bible but was part of this inter-testament period between the Old Testament and the New. Like other books, Maccabees and Judith. It is fascinating reading and very apocalyptic, somewhat like the book of revelation. Maybe we can talk more about this when we talk about Noah.

1. Many books and authors are quoted in the N.T. that are not part of the Bible.
2. 32 of the 39 books in the O.T. are quoted in the New in a way that confirms their authority, such as "It is written".

Enoch was the 7th generation since Adam, born in 970fc, and he was the first person born that did not have contact with Adam. So there was no first person eyewitness account of a God. But Enoch believed that there was a God and that there is a reward for seeking him. Adam walked with God in a garden, the original garden long since overgrown and the tree of life taken to heaven. Enoch simply wanted what Adam had … to walk with God.

Walking with God

Amos 3:3 *Can two people walk together without agreeing on the direction?*

Enoch walked with God, it does not say that God walked with Enoch. There is a difference. Enoch was determined to go in God's direction. How many times do we want God to go in our way instead?

John 12:35 ***Walk in the light*** *while you can, so the darkness will not overtake you.*

Eph 4:7 *This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk* (nkjv)

Mat 14:29 *Yes, come," Jesus said. So Peter went over the side of the boat and* ***walked on the water <u>toward</u> Jesus.***

Deut 30:16 *For I command you this day to love the LORD your God and to keep his commands, decrees, and regulations by* ***walking in his ways…***

Matthew 7 narrow is the way that leads to righteousness.

The sun was settin' slow over the pines, cicadas singin' their song, when old Brother Earl rocked gentle on his porch. A Bible rested on his lap, worn thin at the edges.

"Young fella," he said, lookin' over at me with them steady eyes, "life ain't all smooth ridin'. Folks think the road's straight, but lemme tell ya somethin' I've learned in my seventy-odd years."

He leaned forward, voice low and gravelly, like he was lettin' me in on a secret:
"For every mile o' road, there's two miles o' ditch."

He chuckled, slapped his knee. "That's the truth. Walk a mile, and temptation's right there on both sides, just waitin' to pull ya off. Could be rebellion, bitterness,and murder in one ditch, could be pride, gossip, and unforgiveness in the other. Either way, you're stuck in the muck if you ain't careful."

I nodded quiet, takin' it in, as the crickets swelled louder in the dusk.

Brother Earl patted his Bible. "That's why I stick close to the Lord, son. This here Word keeps me walkin' straight down the middle. 'Cause the road may be narrow, but it's the only one that'll get ya home."

The old rocker creaked, the fireflies blinked on, and I swear the night air itself seemed to whisper Amen.

.

But, good news, God will help. Psalm 23 *He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to his name.*

Walking the 7 station of the cross (via delorasa)

1st John 2:6 *He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to* ***walk just as He walked.*** (Nkjv)

1. Gethsemane – The Cup of Surrender
Matthew 26:36–39 – Jesus prays in agony, surrendering to the Father's will: "*Not my will, but Yours be done."*
When we confess Jesus is Lord it means essentially the same thing, not my will but yours Jesus. This is where salvation begins.

2. The Betrayal and Arrest
Luke 22:47–48 – Judas betrays Him with a kiss, and Jesus is taken by the soldiers.
Sometimes we may feel betrayed, it is esp. hurtful when it is a close friend. Is it time for revenge?
Romans 12:19 *Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say, "I will take revenge; I will pay them back," says the LORD.*

3. The Trial and Condemnation
Matthew 27:22–26 – Jesus stands before Pilate, falsely accused, yet silent, and is condemned to be crucified.
Luke 6:27 "*But to you who are willing to listen, I say, love your enemies! Do good to those who hate you. 28 Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who hurt you.*

4. The Scourging and Mockery
John 19:1–3 – Jesus is whipped, crowned with thorns, and mocked as "King of the Jews."
Mat 5:*11 God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you and say all sorts of evil things against you because you are my followers. 12 Be happy about it! Be very glad! For a great reward awaits you in heaven.*

5. The Carrying of the Cross
John 19:17; Luke 23:26 – Jesus bears His cross toward Golgotha, helped by Simon of Cyrene.
Luke 9:23 Then he said to the crowd, "*If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow me.*

1. Deny yourself. No selfish ambitions. God's will first.
2. Take your cross. Embrace hardship or trials so that you can share God's love
3. Follow Jesus' Walk

6. The Crucifixion
Luke 23:33–34 – Jesus is nailed to the cross, offering forgiveness even to His executioners.
Mat 6:*14 If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you.
15 But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.*

Scott's first steps.

Certainly a momentous occasion, call a family member, take a picture. Makes a dad smile with pride.. At first the boy stumbled, fell, but always got up and kept trying. The steps become steadier, more assured until he is able to run the race with determination.

I remember Scott during varsity football spring training as the team finished a 2 hour workout in hot weather and then had to run 3 times around the track. He was a 240 pound lineman and not the faster runner. After the first lap he was dead last. But he didn't quit. After the 2nd lap he had moved up to the middle of the pack. Through grit and determination he finished the final lap in the top ten, then went to the field and threw up. I had never been so proud. It wasn't a race, no prize, no reward, but he just loved being part of the team. I told him afterwards that it would not be his intelligence or his strength that would make him successful in life, but the fact that he had no quit in him.

Think how God must feel when one of his kids begins walking. He watches us stumble and fall, he picks us up … loves us and smiles. He knows our journey is long but as long as we keep trying, Jesus is there. He never leaves or forsakes us.

And that brings us to the final station of the cross.

7. The Resurrection – Victory over sin and death (Luke 24:6–7).
Romans 6:*4 For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives. 5 Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was. 6 We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin.*

NOAH

Hebrews 11:*7 It was by faith that **Noah** built a large boat to save his family from the flood. He obeyed God, who warned him about things that had never happened before. By his faith Noah condemned the rest of the world, and he received the righteousness that comes by faith.*

Abel worshipped Enoch by faith.
Enoch walked by faith.
Noah worked in faith.

Faith without works is dead, and Noah surely must have worked hard. It took over a million man-hours to build the Titanic. If Noah and 3 sons worked 16 hours a day, six days a week for 120 years, that would be just about enough time, 700,000 man hours. Granted, he must have had some help in procuring the wood and such but it was perseverance with no hint of rain.

To understand Noah's faith we must understand Noah's time.

What were the pre-flood Earth and the people like? 2500BC

Climate:

Probably no rain and with a temperate climate. This, along with little to no pollution, may have been the reason people lived such long lives. Think about how smart they must have been, learning not only from their own experiences but the knowledge passed on from previous generations.

NOAH

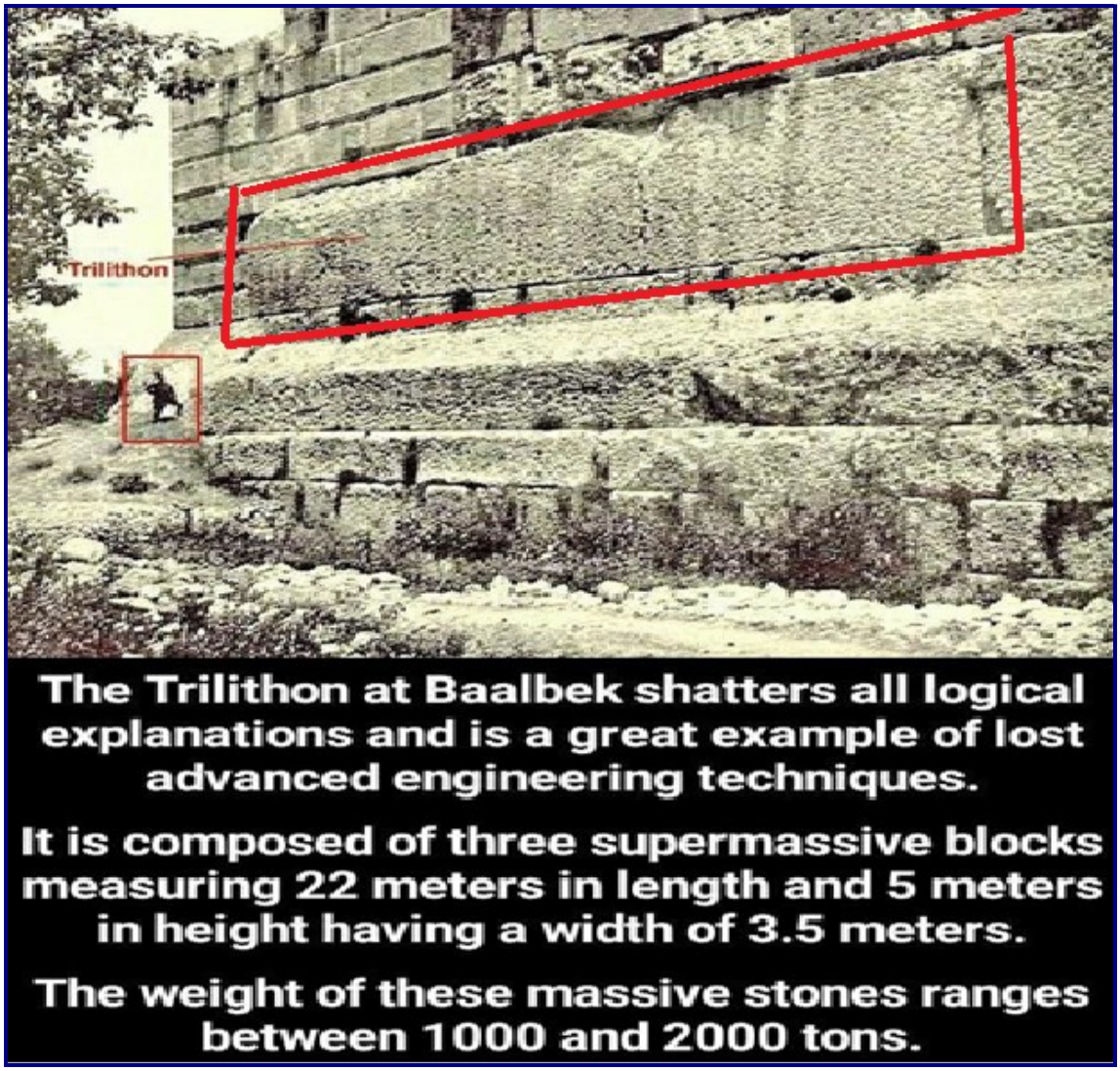
Technology - brilliant

Music: Genesis 4:21 *first of all who play the harp and flute.*
Animal Husbandry: Genesis 4:19 *the first of those who raise livestock*
Metallurgy: Genesis 4:22 *expert in forging tools of bronze and iron*
Building: Genesis 4:17 *Cain founded a city.*

There were giants in those days. Mighty men capable of building cities, temples, and monuments. Archaeologists have long debated how primitive people with primitive tools could build such structures as the Giza pyramids, the Sphinx, Gobleki Tepe, Sacsayhuaman, Baalbek, or Stonehenge. All date to before the flood and show signs of water erosion.

These stones of Sacsayhuaman in Peru are laid down with such precision that a piece of paper will not fit between them. Notice the irregular shapes, as many as 8 angles per stone. This makes these stone able to withstand even earthquake forces.

NOAH



1957: The Atlas crane (built by Krupp for Germany) had a capacity of 1,000 t, used for shipyard salvages and heavy module installation. It marked the first operational crane at this threshold. Some of the Megalith stones weigh 1,000 tons, a tech not available to the Greeks or Romans. It makes one wonder how the ancients could have lifted 1000tons over 30 meters high and place it with such precision.

NOAH

Evil - all the time: Genesis 6:5 *the LORD saw that man's wickedness was widespread on the earth and that every scheme his mind thought of was nothing but evil all the time,j* 6:*11 Now God saw that the earth had become corrupt and was filled with violence. 12God observed all this corruption in the world, for everyone on earth was corrupt.*

Sexually Immoral: Hybrid giants: Genesis 6:*4 In those days, and for some time after, giant Nephilites lived on the earth, for whenever the sons of God had intercourse with women, they gave birth to children who became the heroes and famous warriors of ancient times.*

Contrast with Noah who in Genesis 6:9 *This is the genealogy of Noah. Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations.* The Hebrew word for "generations" indicates Noah's genealogy.

But the question that has stirred the minds of scholars and theologians for years, "Who are theses 'Sons of God'"?

The early church fathers, Justin Martyr, Irenaeus, believed them to be fallen angels. Then, in the 5th century St. Augustine said that was just too bizarre and said the "Sons of God" must have been the sons of Seth and the "Daughters of men" must have meant the daughters of Cain. And so the debate began.

Silly argument #1: Angels are spirit being and do not have human bodies.
Genesis 19:1 That evening the two angels came to the entrance of the city of Sodom. Lot was sitting there, and when he saw them, he stood up to meet them. 4 But before they retired for the night, all the men of Sodom, young and old, came from all over the city and surrounded the house. 5 They shouted to Lot, "Where are the men who came to spend the night with you? Bring them out to us so we can have sex with them!"
Daniel 8:15 As I, Daniel, was trying to understand the meaning of this vision, someone who looked like a man stood in front of me. 16 And I heard a human voice calling out from the Ulai River, "Gabriel, tell this man the meaning of his vision
Hebrews 13:2 Don't forget to show hospitality to strangers, for some who have done this have entertained angels without realizing it!
Silly argument #2: No angels have DNA.
The only way to test the validity of this argument is to test every single angel.

Book of Enoch:

Written about 300BC. This book is found in the Dead Sea scrolls. It is not part of the Bible but was part of this inter-testament period between the Old Testament and the New. Like other books, Maccabees and Judith. It is fascinating reading and very apocalyptic, somewhat like the book of revelation. It was lost to history until multiple copies were found among the Dead Sea Scrolls. The Book of Enoch expands on Genesis 6 and describes how some fallen angels took the daughters of men as wives and had hybrid offspring called Nephilim.

NOAH

Book of Enoch 3:1 *And it came to pass when the children of men had multiplied that in those days*
were born unto them beautiful and comely daughters. 2 And the angels, the children of the heaven, saw and lusted after them, and said to one another: "Come, let us choose us wives from among the children of men and beget us children."

3:3 *And Semjaza, who was their leader, said unto them: "I fear ye will not indeed agree to do this deed, and I alone shall have to pay the penalty of a great sin."*
4 And they all answered him and said: "Let us all swear an oath, and all bind ourselves by mutual imprecations not to abandon this plan but to do this thing."

3:7 *And all the others together with them took unto themselves wives, and each chose for himself one, and they began to go in unto them and to defile themselves with them. 9 And they became pregnant, and they bare great giants, whose height was three thousand ells:*

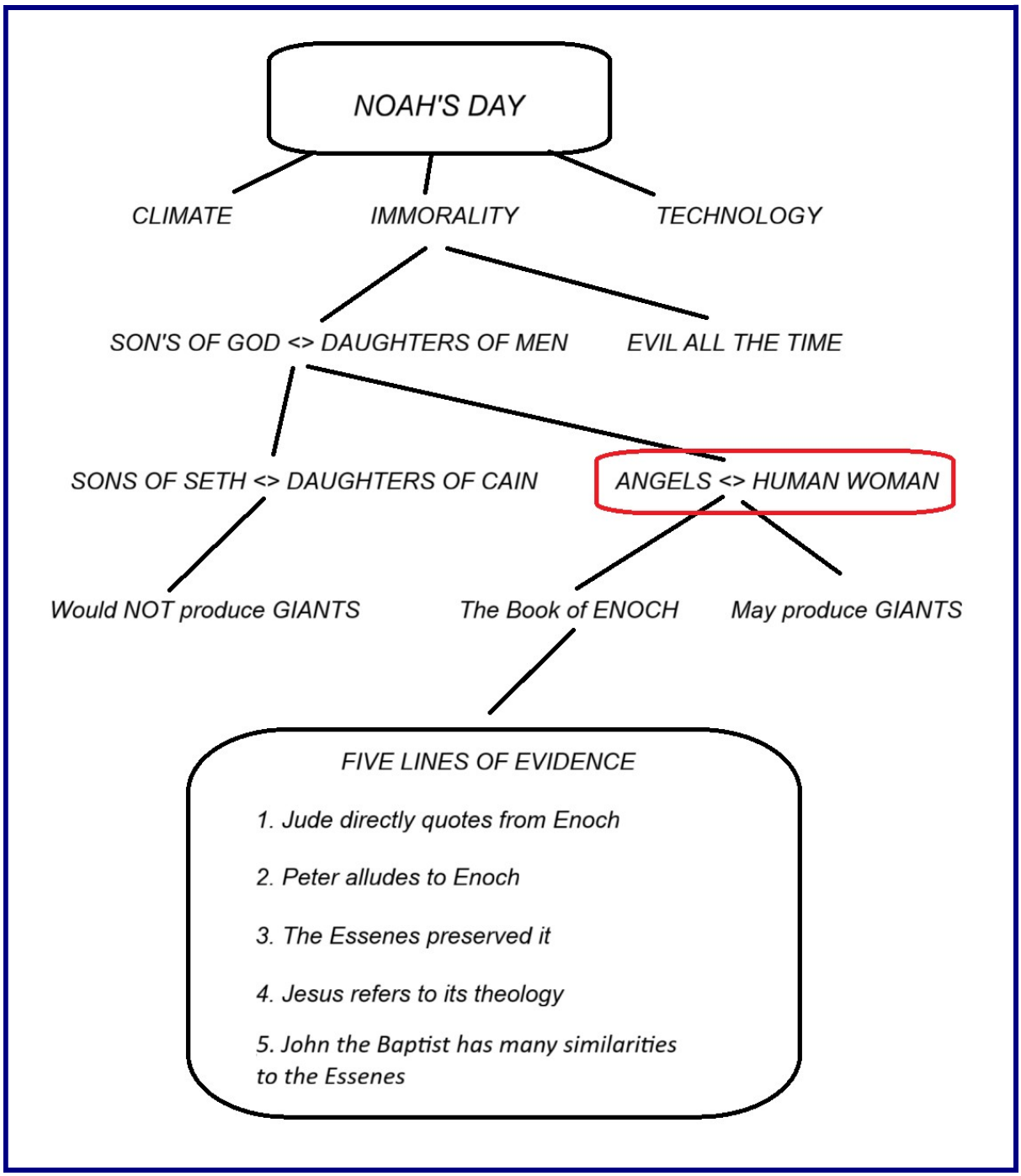
3:11 *And Azazel taught men to make swords, and knives, and shields, and breastplates, and made known to them the metals of the earth and the art of working them, and bracelets, and ornaments, and the use of antimony, and the beautifying of the eyelids, and all kinds of costly stones, and all colouring tinctures.*

4:9 *Then said the Most High, the Holy and Great One spake, and sent Uriel to the son of Lamech and said to him, "Go to Noah and tell him in my name 'Hide thyself!' and reveal to him the end that is approaching, that the whole earth will be destroyed, and a deluge is about to come upon the whole earth, and will destroy all that is on it. And now instruct him that he may escape and his seed may be preserved for all the generations of the world."*
11 And heal the earth which the angels have corrupted, and proclaim the healing of the earth, that they may heal the plague, and that all the children of men may not perish through all the secret things that the Watchers have disclosed and have taught their sons. And the whole earth has been corrupted through the works that were taught by Azazel, to him ascribe all sin."
19 And cleanse thou the earth from all oppression, and from all unrighteousness, and from all sin, and from all godlessness, and all the uncleanness that is wrought upon the earth destroy from off the earth.
15:8 *And now, the giants, who are produced from the spirits and flesh, shall be called evil spirits upon the earth, and on the earth shall be their dwelling.*

But since the Book of Enoch is not scripture, is there any reason to consider it reliable?

Hebrews
הרברוס

NOAH


NOAH'S DAY
CLIMATE
IMMORALITY
TECHNOLOGY
SON'S OF GOD <> DAUGHTERS OF MEN
EVIL ALL THE TIME
SONS OF SETH <> DAUGHTERS OF CAIN
ANGELS <> HUMAN WOMAN
Would NOT produce GIANTS
The Book of ENOCH
May produce GIANTS
FIVE LINES OF EVIDENCE
1. Jude directly quotes from Enoch
2. Peter alludes to Enoch
3. The Essenes preserved it
4. Jesus refers to its theology
5. John the Baptist has many similarities to the Essenes

NOAH

1. Jude quotes directly from the book of Enoch

Jude 14 *Enoch, who lived in the seventh generation after Adam, prophesied about these people. He said, "Listen! The Lord is coming with countless thousands of his holy ones 15 to execute judgment on the people of the world. He will convict every person of all the ungodly things they have done and for all the insults that ungodly sinners have spoken against him."*

1st Enoch 1:9 *"And behold! He cometh with ten thousands of His holy ones To execute judgment upon all, And to destroy all the ungodly: And to convict all flesh Of all the works of their ungodliness which they have ungodly committed, And of all the hard things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."*

Jude 6 *And I remind you of the angels who did not stay within the limits of authority God gave them but left the place where they belonged. God has kept them securely chained in prisons of darkness, waiting for the great day of judgment.*

1st Enoch 18:14–16 "*And the angels who mingled themselves with women shall be bound in chains together, until the day of their condemnation, till the eternal crime is consummated."*

2. Peter alludes to the Book of Enoch

2nd Peter 2:4 *For God did not spare even the angels who sinned. He threw them into hell, in gloomy pits of darkness, where they are being held until the day of judgment. 5 And God did not spare the ancient world—except for Noah and the seven others in his family. Noah warned the world of God's righteous judgment. So God protected Noah when he destroyed the world of ungodly people with a vast flood.*

NOAH

3. The Essenes preserved the Book of Enoch

There were several Jewish sects at the time of Jesus. Among these were the Pharisees, the Sadducees, the Zealots, and the Essenes. We learn about the Essenes from Josephus, Philo of Alexandria, and documents found among the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Of course we know that the Dead Sea Scrolls were first uncovered in 1946 when a Bedouin herder tossed a rock into a cave and broke open a clay jar containing ancient documents. These documents contained manuscripts of every book in the Bible, except Esther, as well as some apocrypha books, like Maccabees, **the Book of Enoch**, and Essene's Community Rules.

Here are some things we now know about the Essenes:

1. They lived a communal lifestyle in the Qumran area around the Dead Sea.
2. They adhered to strict obedience to the Torah
3. They separated from what they considered a corrupt Temple Priesthood.
4. They did immersion in water for repentance
5. They were expecting the Messiah and the Kingdom of God.
6. They followed a solar calendar first used in the book of Enoch.
7. **They observed Passover based on the solar calendar.**

The Enoch manuscripts are in Aramaic — the Essenes' common language. All the Qumran Enoch fragments are written in Aramaic, which was the everyday language of the Essenes and other Jews of that time. This confirms these were working copies used by the community — not imported relics or translations.

4. Jesus refers to the theology in the Book of Enoch

Luke 16:19–31 Jesus gives the parable of the rich man and Lazarus … *"The rich man died and was buried, and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off, and Lazarus in his bosom… Between us and you a great chasm has been fixed…"*

Jesus is telling us new theology – about the place of the dead and the chasm in-between the good and the evil. This is not found anywhere in the Old Testament. But is is found in the Book of Enoch

1st Enoch 22 "*I saw a place for the spirits of the dead… separated by chasms…one where the righteous await their glory, and another where sinners are kept in torment until the day of judgment*."

NOAH

5. John the Baptist has many similarities to the Essene and the Book of Enoch

Parallels between John the Baptist and the Essenes

Theme	John the Baptist	Essenes
Location	Judean wilderness (Luke 3:2)	Qumran, Judean wilderness
Lifestyle	Ascetic: Camel hair, ate honey	Ascetic: Strict diet, simple clothes
Baptism	Baptized as a sign of repentance	Ritual immersion for purity
Message	Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near" (Matt 3:2)	Expected an imminent judgment and coming Messiah (Daniel 9)
Temple Leaders	Condemned religious leaders (Matt 3:7–10)	Rejected the Temple establishment as corrupt
Scripture Emphasis	*"A voice crying in the wilderness…"* Isaiah 40:3	"*A voice crying in the wilderness…*"(1QS 8:14–16)

These similarities suggest John's teaching and symbolism would have fit naturally within an Essene worldview.

Here's what 1QS 8:14–16 says — it's from the Community Rule (Serek ha-Yahad), one of the main Dead Sea Scrolls discovered at Qumran.

"They shall separate from the congregation of the men of injustice and shall go into the wilderness to prepare the way of Him; as it is written, 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.'

Now look at Luke 3:2–4

"The word of God came to John… in the wilderness … He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance…as it is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah, 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"

Was John the Baptist an Essene?
Well, John lived where the Essenes lived
John did the things the Essenes did
John said the things the Essenes said

And a wise man once said, if it walks like a duck, and looks like a duck, and quacks like a duck….it may just be a duck. AND John the Baptist may just have been an Essene.

NOAH

5. **John the Baptist and the Synoptic Gospels use the solar calendar first mentioned in the Book of Enoch**

Genesis 1:4 *And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to distinguish between the day and the night, and let them be signs to mark the seasons and days and years.*

1st Enoch 74:10–12 "*And the whole number of the days of the moon in the year—three hundred and fifty-four days. And in the years exactly three years, the difference between the sun and the moon is ten days... For this reason the years will come upon them when they will disturb the order, and make an abominable day—the day of testimony—and an unclean day a feast day, and they will confound all the days, the holy with the unclean, and the unclean day with the holy; for they will go wrong as to the months and sabbaths and feasts and jubilees."*

Temple Judaism uses a lunar calendar. 12 months and adds a 13th every 3rd year. The Roman Julian calendar, based on solar cycles, goes back to the time of Enoch.

There is strong evidence that John the Baptizer and some of Jesus disciples were influenced by the Essenes. There were many sects of Judaism; Pharisees, Sadducees, Zealots, and Essenes. Within Jesus' apostles you can find several of these groups.

NOAH

Why this teaching in the Book of Enoch Matters

Critics have stated that Luke's Gospel says Jesus ate the Last Supper on the day of the Passover, while John has the Last Supper the day before the Passover. Some Bible sceptics have called these passages *"the contradiction that will bring down Christianity"*

This apparent contradiction is resolved by the different calendars. Luke was using the Julian and John using the temple one.

Luke 22:7 *Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb was to be sacrificed. 8 Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover." 13 … And they prepared the Passover. 14 When the hour had come, Jesus reclined at the table with His apostles. 15 And He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before My suffering.*

John 13:1 *It was now just before the Passover Feast, and Jesus knew that His hour had come to leave this world and return to the Father. Having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the very end. 2 The evening meal was underway,*

John 19:13 … *Pilate brought Jesus out to them again. Then Pilate sat down on the judgment seat on the platform that is called the Stone Pavement (in Hebrew, Gabbatha). 14 It was now about noon on the day of preparation for the Passover. And Pilate said to the people, "Look, here is your king!" 15 "Away with him," they yelled. "Away with him! Crucify him!" "What? Crucify your king?" Pilate asked. "We have no king but Caesar," the leading priests shouted back.*
16 Then Pilate turned Jesus over to them to be crucified.

We see in Luke's account that Jesus' "Last Supper" occurred on the day of Passover. John records the meal the day before, and Jesus is before Pilate on the day before Passover. This has been one of the critics "best case" for a contradiction. The answer to this one is rather long, but worth the time.

OK, the Short Answer First

Luke is recording the Last Supper at Passover based on Enoch and the Essene's solar calendar. John is recording the Last Supper the day before based on the Temple Priest's lunar calendar.

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NOAH

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Now for the Long Answer

Josephus, in *Antiquities* 13.8.1, describes the Essenes as a distinct sect with their own customs and timing of rituals.

Who might have associated with the Essenes?

1. Very possibly **John the Baptist** – Both preached the Messiah's arrival and the baptism of repentance.

John 1:23 *John replied in the words of the prophet Isaiah: "I am a voice shouting in the wilderness, 'Clear the way for the LORD's coming!'" 24 Then the Pharisees who had been sent 25 asked him, "If you aren't the Messiah or Elijah or the Prophet, what right do you have to baptize?" 26 John told them, "I baptize with water, but right here in the crowd is someone you do not recognize. 27 Though his ministry follows mine, I'm not even worthy to be his slave and untie the straps of his sandal." 28 This encounter took place in Bethany, an area east of the Jordan River, where John was baptizing.*

2. John's disciples which left John to follow Jesus.

John 1:35 *The following day John was again standing with two of his disciples. 36 As Jesus walked by, John looked at him and declared, "Look! There is the Lamb of God!" 37 When John's two disciples heard this, they followed Jesus.*

5. John the Baptist and the Synoptic Gospels use the solar calendar first mentioned in the Book of Enoch

Since Luke probably used the Solar Calendar and John the Lunar Calendar, let's see how they might line up.

Year	**Days in a year Lunar / Solar**	**Total days since leap month**	***Variance in days Lunar vs Solar***
28AD	*354 / 364*	*354 / 364*	*10 days*
29	*354 / 364*	*708 / 728*	*20 days*
30	*354 + 29 = 383 / 364*	*1091 / 1092*	*1 day*
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Most scholars place Jesus' crucifixion either on 30 or 33 AD. Either date fits within a lineup of the calendars.

Significance:

So far from being a contradiction, it is an emphasis on each writer's point of view.

John's Gospel is written to emphasize Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. In John's timeline, as Jesus was on the cross, the day of Passover preparation was taking place at the temple. This preparation included the sacrifice of the lamb. So as the lamb was being sacrificed in the temple area, Jesus was being sacrificed for ours sins on the cross … As John clearly states …

"BEHOLD, THE LAMB OF GOD THAT TAKES AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD"

Conclusion: A logical syllogism

If Jude can quote directly from the Book of Enoch, and
If Peter can allude to it, and
If Jesus can reference its theology, and
If it answers a long standing apparent contradiction,

Then … maybe we can take what it says about angels and the daughters of men as reliable.

NOAH

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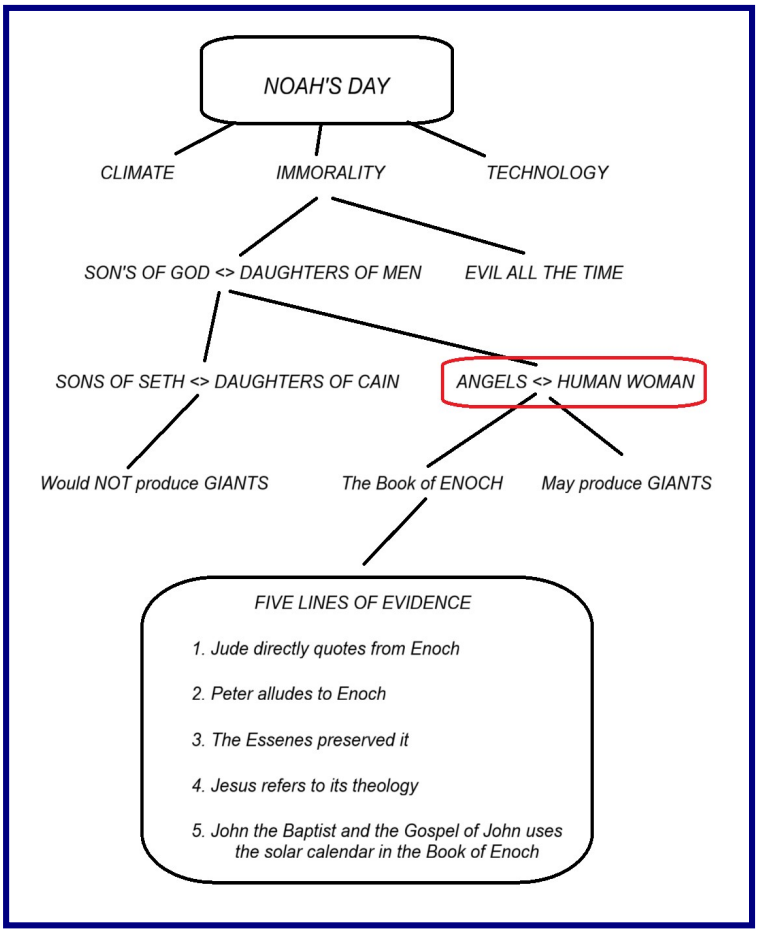

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NOAH

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